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CAUTION.—Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood stated that Dr. J. Collis Browne was, undoubtedly, the Inventor of Chlorodyne; that the story of the Defendant, Freeman, was deliberately untrue, which, he regretted to say, had been sworn to."—See "Times," 13th July, 1864.

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FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—M. Floquet was on Saturday definitively elected President of the Chamber of Deputies by 346 votes against 79 blank voting-papers. Four vice-presidents belonging to the Left were also chosen.

On Monday the Premier (M. Brisson) read his Ministerial statement. He first dwelt on the necessity of union among the Republican majority. It was necessary that the Budget should be placed on a solid basis, but the revenue was suffering from the crisis which all Europe was passing through. However, even the very appearance of a deficit must be put an end to, and they would try to do away with, or at least reduce, the extraordinary Budget. Reductions would be made in expenditure, and should these not suffice an appeal must be made to taxation. With regard to Tonquin, he said :—

"Our plan has been to establish at Hué a protectorate extending over Annam and Tonquin, carefully avoiding all that could lead us into the path of annexation. The military situation is at present this : —In Annam we have occupied without a blow a certain number of points on the coast. The pacification of the southern provinces demands the despatch of garrisons to the citadels of the chief towns. In the northern provinces everything is in good train. . . . In Tonquin our purpose is to complete the formation of native troops destined to furnish the frontier garrisons. A civil Resident-General will be installed at Hué, dependent on a single Ministerial department."

With regard to Madagascar resolutions are to be passed "calculated to safeguard the rights and interests of France." As to the relations of Church and State, profound division has been caused by the hostility of some of the clergy to certain institutions :—

"The question of the separation of Church and State, often incidentally raised in Parliament, has never been settled, nor even directly discussed. It presented itself before universal suffrage, and it seems certain that the majority of Frenchmen are not at present favourable to that solution. The question, moreover, was only confusedly put forward, without an explanation of the measures of detail which, even in the view of the staunchest supporters, should prepare for and accompany the separation. It is necessary, therefore, for the discussion to be opened and thoroughly conducted in an early session. If, as we expect, the majority decide against separation, our duty will be resolutely to defend the rights of civil society, and to use without passion, but with firmness, the means given us by law for recalling to the performance of their duties towards the Government of the country those of the clergy deviating therefrom.

"The Conscription Bill, passed by the previous Chamber, subjects all citizens without exception to military service. All our efforts will tend to hasten its adoption. We shall revive before you a scheme previously submitted on church-building, and we shall submit one on the organisation of diocesan relief funds. Such is on this point the policy of justice and legality which we shall ask you to adopt."

The Eastern question is not referred to on account of its acute stage, and as to an amnesty the Cabinet is said not to have been able to agree. This latter is expected to bring about the fall of the Ministry, a new one being formed containing a further Radical element, headed, probably, by M. Floquet. M. de Freycinet will probably retain the Foreign Office, if he does not become Premier.

M. Timoleon Philemon, Mayor of Athens and Deputy, waited on Wednesday on M. de Freycinet, to explain the reasons why Greece cannot remain inactive, but must shortly enter Ottoman territory. He appealed to the traditional friendliness of France, and expressed his intention of visiting London and Vienna for the purpose of making similar appeals. M. de Freycinet told him that he could not enter into a discussion with him.

ITALY.—The police have succeeded in discovering in the ex-monastery of the Cistercians at Santa Croce in Gerusalemme four boxes containing 144 manuscripts, which it would seem were withheld at the time when the Italian Government took possession of the libraries of the different monastic orders and concentrated their contents in the newly-founded public library in the Roman College, called the Victor Emmanuel. That these manuscripts were missing was recognised at the time, and their recovery now is matter for congratulation, as among them are many of great value, some of them being of the seventh and eighth centuries.

GERMANY.—The Parliament was opened on Thursday afternoon in the hall of the Reichstag at Berlin. The Speech from the Throne was read by Herr von Boetticher, Minister of State, the Emperor in one part of it expressing the confident hope that the struggle among the Balkan States will not disturb the peace of the European Powers, and trusting that the Powers who seven years ago sealed the peace of Europe will also succeed in securing respect for treaties from the people rendered independent by them.

GREECE.—M. Delyannis on Saturday submitted to the Greek Chamber an Extraordinary Budget with an expenditure of 60,000,000 drachmas for naval and military preparations; and on Sunday the Government signed a contract for the supply of guns and ammunition to the navy, and contracted with the National Bank for a loan of 19,000,000 drachmas.

SPAIN.—The Government has received the Papal Note upon the Caroline Islands dispute, which both Germany and Spain agreed to refer to the Pope for settlement. It is skilfully worded, so as to respect the historic pretensions of Spain, while not offending the modern German theory that rights to a territory are founded only on priority of occupation. Leo XIII., as mediator, recommends Spain and Germany now to renew their direct negotiations between each other, on the understanding that Germany ought to recognise the sovereign rights of Spain over the Pelew and Caroline Archipelagoes, and accept in return the liberty of trade, of navigation, and of colonisation, together with the grant of coaling and naval stations, which were offered by the Spanish Note of the 10th of September. The *Standard* correspondent understands that both Governments were consulted, and had agreed to the tenor of the Papal award. The conciliatory attitude of Germany during the latter part of the mediation negotiations is chiefly attributed to the kind interposition of the Emperor and the Crown Prince, who throughout the Carolines affair endeavoured to pave the way for extricating King Alphonso from the domestic political embarrassments created by this incident, which is now on the eve of a satisfactory settlement.

EGYPT.—A correspondent of the *Standard* has had a long and most interesting conversation with a refugee from Khartoum, by name Dimitri Zigada. He left Omdurman in company of two Sisters of Mercy, one of whom, a white woman, is named Mariette, and the other, a black, Fortunata. They report that the four nuns still remaining in the camp at Omdurman are now married to Greek prisoners. Zigada made his escape by the help of an emissary sent up by his brother with the promise of a large reward. He was at one time a wealthy merchant in Kordofan, and acted as contractor for supplying meat to the Egyptian Army. Naturally, he has now lost everything, having been for the last two years a prisoner with the Mahdi. He says that the prisoners were not badly treated, but were very closely watched, and forced to pray five times a day. He made his escape at eight o'clock one evening, just after the time of the last prayer. A violent storm was then raging. His account of Olivier Pain dispels all the ridiculous stories hitherto in circulation. Having left Esneh with two attendants, Pain, on his arrival at Kordofan, learnt that the Mahdi had left on the march to Khartoum. He followed in his track, and came up with the force at Egella, where Zigada first saw him. He was then in good health. He did not speak Arabic very well, and was forced to call an interpreter if he wished to ask a question, or explain anything beyond his daily needs. The Mahdi believed none of his protestations, and at once made him a close prisoner, and forbade the other European prisoners (who were allowed to see each other) all intercourse with him. Nevertheless, Pain, Slatin Bey, and Zigada managed to cut out various lines and slips of newspaper, making, in all, a letter of encouragement for Gordon with news of the approaching Relief Expedition. Pain was led in the train of the Mahdi for fifteen days to Shat, where he fell ill. The Mahdi stayed twenty days at Shat, and while there Mustave, an Austrian prisoner, was put in chains for ten days for attempting to reach and inquire after Pain. From Shat they marched to Duem, and thence down the White Nile to Omdurman. It was about one-and-a-half days' march from Omdurman that Pain died. He had twice fallen from his camel from exhaustion the day before, and once again on the day of his death. Finding it was impossible to rally him, the Arabs dug a grave beside him, and, with the assistance of Zigada, buried him. Zigada says he was still warm when they covered him with earth. The grave is close to the White Nile, and Zigada says he could find it blindfold. Slatin Bey was not told of Pain's death till half an hour later on the march. Just before the fall of Khartoum all the rebels were extremely terrified at the approach of the English, except the Mahdi himself, who kept up his courage. Directly after the surrender the Mahdi went across the river in a steamer, and made his evening prayer in Khartoum, returning, however, the next day to Omdurman. Gordon's head was hung up on a butcher's hook in the bazaars of Omdurman for five days. Every passer by threw slippers, stones, or mud at it, and spat upon it. All the papers and such like things were burned, but the clothes and decorations were sold by auction in the bazaars. The linen shirts fetched five piastres. Seven Greeks found in Khartoum were massacred.

The death of the Mahdi took place on the 9th Ramadan. No one knew what he died from ; but he had grown so enormously stout that it needed five men to raise him from his seat. Zigada first heard the news of his death from a few people in the bazaar. Not believing it, he went to inquire, and met the Mahdi's chief eunuch, who had been Zigada's own eunuch. He confirmed the story. The Mahdi left 145 wives—amongst whom were many members of Zigada's own former harem, and a European girl named Klein, daughter of a tailor murdered in Khartoum. Khalifa Abu Laik took the command on the Mahdi's death.

The Khedive has signed the authorisation for the new coinage to shortly come into force.

Reports of the advance of the Arabs continue. General Grenfell telegraphs that about 2,000 rebels have advanced to Shebban, twelve miles from Abu Fatmeh. It is not known who is their leader. Mohamed Elkhair remains at Abu Fatmeh with the bulk of the rebel forces. In the event of any fighting General Stephenson will go to the front at once.

A Cairo telegram states that the Egyptian Camel Corps has captured a rebel convoy which was endeavouring to pass the Egyptian frontier in order to proceed to Assouan to purchase arms.

ROUMANIA.—The Government, it is reported, intends to send a protest to the Conference against the non-dismantlement of the Bulgarian Danube fortresses, Silistria and Widdin. It is even rumoured that Roumania will use this opportunity to seize upon the former district.

INDIA.—The Commissioner of Orissa has submitted fuller details of the cyclone which struck the Cuttack coast on the 22nd of September. The centre of the cyclone passed over False Point, raising a wave 15ft. high, which submerged the village of Jumbo, and rolled north-eastwards, over the Kaldip and Karara Pergunnahs, till it lost itself in the Brahminee River. Over 250 square miles were submerged ; and eleven villages, with all their inhabitants, were completely swept away, while about 150 other villages were more or less damaged. It is estimated that 5,000 lives were lost. The Lieutenant-Governor has visited the scene of the storm. In the meanwhile a grant of 20,000 rupees has been sanctioned, and about 8,000 persons are employed in relief works.

The Viceroy and suite arrived at Jodhpore on Sunday last, and were received near the town by the Maharajah. The viceregal party immediately drove to the camp, which was luxuriously fitted up. The road along the route was lined by a brilliant gathering of 10,000 people, including the flower of the Marwar nobility and their followers. Lord Dufferin was impressed by the splendour of the gathering, and remarked that he had never witnessed a more striking scene. On Monday the viceregal party joined a hog hunt, in which Lord Dufferin, after an exciting chase, distanced everybody, and speared an enormous boar in front of the elephant on which the Countess of Dufferin and the Maharajah were sitting. After the hunt an excursion was made to the famous fortress and palace. The Countess subsequently held a durbar of ladies in the zenana. On Tuesday the Viceroy paid several visits and held a durbar. In the evening a banquet was given, at which the Maharajah proposed "The health of Queen Victoria." The Viceroy, in replying to the toast, referred to Jodhpore as a faithful and loyal feudatory State. On Wednesday an inspection was made of the work intended for the Indian and Colonial Exhibition in London, and, after attending a parade of horses, the Viceroy and party left in the afternoon for Jeypore.

BURMAH.—The Burmese have been assured by a proclamation that there will be no interference with their commercial pursuits or the discharge of their religious duties ; but they have also been warned against the killing or maltreatment of British soldiers. The deposition of King Theebaw is declared. On Saturday one of King Theebaw's steamers on the Irrawaddy, carrying a large quantity of ammunition and manned by two hundred men, was captured by the launch *Kathleen*, armed with two howitzers, and commanded by Lieutenant French, of the *Turquoise*. The Burmese crew were driven overboard by the artillery fire of the launch *Kathleen* and of the Government steamer accompanying her. The British boarded the Burmese vessel after the engagement, and proceeded up the river.

On Tuesday the Burmese position at Minhla was carried by assault at one o'clock, after a fight which lasted for three hours. The British casualties were but slight—one officer was killed and three wounded. By this victory the way to Mandalay is cleared. Prior to the capture of Minhla, Major-General Norman advanced six miles up the left bank of the Irrawaddy, and occupied Senboung-Weh after firing two shells. Major-General Prendergast, operating on the right bank, shelled the Kuligon Fort, which was attacked in the rear and taken. The guns defending it were spiked. On the river below Minhla the Burmese abandoned the fort opposite Sengboung-Weh without fighting. The British landed a party, who spiked the guns on the west bank, and also burned a stockade in a village on the east bank. The Welsh Fusiliers met with no resistance. The telegraph was found working to Mandalay.

SERVIA AND BULGARIA.—War was formally declared against Bulgaria on Saturday by the King of Servia. According to an official account from Belgrade, last Friday, near Vlassina, on the Servo-Bulgarian frontier, in Vranya county, the Bulgarian troops attacked the Servians. They returned the fire, so that ten Bulgarians, killed and wounded, were left on Servian territory. Several Servians were wounded. Consequently on Friday the Cabinet decided on war, and early on Saturday morning the Servian troops crossed the Bulgarian frontier at all points. This account of the matter is, however, emphatically contradicted by the Bulgarian Government, who assert that the Bulgarian troops never attacked the positions occupied by the Servian forces on Servian territory in the environs of Vlassina, and that the aggression proceeded from the Servian troops, the Bulgarians having kept on the defensive, which attitude they will still maintain.

On Sunday the Servians had succeeded in occupying positions at Raptcha, the Bulgarian forces, after a gallant resistance, being compelled to fall back upon Slivnitza.

On Monday some desperate fighting took place and resulted in the Servians gaining possession of the Dragoman Pass. Prince Alexander left for Slivnitza in the afternoon, and before doing so based a strong appeal to the Porte on the ground that under the first article of the Berlin Treaty the Bulgarian Government cannot treat with the enemy, who, taking advantage of the fact that Bulgaria as a tributary State has no right to declare war on its neighbours, and consequently is destitute of all means of taking the offensive, has arrived almost at the gates of Sofia.

On Tuesday the Bulgarian troops under the command of Prince Alexander—who displayed the greatest bravery—attacked and carried by assault the Servian positions at Gornimalo and Dolnimalo, by which the safety of Slivnitza was threatened. The Servian right wing, which had advanced by the Lukavitza Valley, was also repulsed and pushed back several kilometres with great loss, the Servian left wing being in its turn driven back towards the Dragoman Pass. On being attacked with the bayonet the Servian troops are said to have taken to flight, greatly to the disgust of the Bulgarians. On the other hand, a Belgrade telegram announces the occupation of Bresnik by the Servians and the complete destruction and dispersion of the Bulgarian army of Widdin.

The Servian troops which have been mobilised and are now in the field consist of seventy-five battalions of infantry, with 1,065 officers and 78,255 men ; twenty-five squadrons of cavalry, with 191 officers and 4,758 men and 4,859 horses ; forty field batteries, with 240 guns, 248 officers, 6,820 men, and 6,390 horses. The total force, including the engineers, transport, and medical corps, is 107,436 men. These figures do not include the Landwehr.

The *Daily News* correspondent at Sophia sends an account of the fighting near Slivnitza on Tuesday and Wednesday, when the Servians suffered reverse. The correspondent says :—

"The Bulgarian division from Tirn and Bresnitza has outflanked the Servian position at Dragoman. Prince Alexander displayed much gallantry, and was in the thick of the fight. He led the attack from Slivnitza. The Servians were completely routed and retreated in disorder, endeavouring to reach their own country. Many prisoners were taken, amongst them being 200 cavalry soldiers. Nightfall put an end to the pursuit. It was, however, to be continued at the dawn.

"The Servians, having rallied during the night, made a stand again on the road to Tzaribrod, but were soon outflanked, defeated, and again put to flight. Had the Bulgarians possessed sufficient cavalry, the enemy would have been annihilated. The Servians lost ten field-pieces and 356 horses. It is estimated that they left 3,000 killed and wounded on the field. Many prisoners were made. I saw to-day twenty of them, all weak, wretched-looking men. The Bulgarians fought with coolness and admirable courage. They have, of course, suffered considerably. The wounded during the last three days' fighting have been brought into this city. Many medical men and private gentlemen have volunteered for the Red Cross service, and ladies also.

"The Servians who had defeated the volunteers at Tirn and occupied Bresnik with the view of turning the Slivnitza position on the Radomir road and surprising Sopha, were attacked and dispersed by the Bulgarian troops under the command of Captain Kyssoff. The Bulgarian reinforcements on that side advance from Philippopolis direct by Banitza and Dubnitza. The Servians having attacked Belgradjik were repulsed with heavy loss, and 150 prisoners made. Knyazevatz and Zaitchar were threatened on the Lom Palanka road, forty miles from here. The Servian detachments retreated at sight of the Bulgarian troops without fighting."

In King Milan's proclamation his Majesty declares that with the object of preserving the interests of the country he has taken measures, provoked by the violation of treaties on the part of Bulgaria, in order clearly to show that Servia cannot look with indifference upon the disturbance of the balance of power among the Balkan people, especially when it is done exclusively to the advantage of a State which has at all times proved a bad neighbour. The King then refers to the unjustified measures regarding the Customs duties adopted by Bulgaria against Servia, and to the forcible and unlawful seizure of Bregovo ; and further to the public encouragement of persons tried and condemned for high treason in their rebellious enterprises. All this, proceeds the Royal proclamation, the King bore, actuated as he was by the wish to afford proofs of his patience, as beseems the Ruler of a State which has bought its own freedom with its own blood, has prospered by the sympathies of Europe, and has at every step of its development protected foreign rights as its own ; but the deliberate ill-treatment of Servian subjects in Bulgaria, the blockade of the frontier, the concentration of undisciplined bodies of volunteers on the border, and their armed attacks on the frontier population, and even on Servian troops —all this constitutes an intentional provocation which the King cannot suffer, having regard either to the holiest interests of the country, the dignity of the people, or the honour of the Servian arms. "These are the reasons," concludes the King, "why I have had recourse to the open hostility forced upon me by the Bulgarian Government, and now I command my loyal and gallant army to cross the frontier of the Principality. The just cause of Servia rests now on the arbitrament of arms, the bravery of my army, and the protection of the Almighty. In announcing this to my beloved people, I rely in this grave moment upon their love to their country and their devotion to the sacred cause of Servia."

Prince Alexander received the declaration of war at 2 a.m. on Saturday, and immediately telegraphed to the Sultan and Grand Vizier declaring that the charges against Bulgaria were unfounded. He would adopt measures to defend his dominions, and hoped the Sultan would approve them. Measures were at once taken to bring up troops from Eastern Roumelia to the Servo-Bulgarian frontier. After service at the Cathedral of Philippopolis, Prince Alexander read the following proclamation :—

"The Government of our neighbours the Servians, guided by private and political purposes, desiring to annul the sacred act of the union of the Bulgarian nation, to-day, without any legal or justifiable cause, proclaimed war against our State, and commanded their army to enter our territory. With great sorrow we received the sad news, because we never believed that brethren of one blood and religion could begin a fratricidal war, and in the troublous times through which the small States of the Balkan Peninsula are passing could so inhumanly and inconsiderately behave towards neighbours who, without causing damage to any one, are working and struggling for a noble, justifiable, and praiseworthy cause. We accept the war proclaimed by Servia, and have given orders to our brave and heroic armies to commence action against her and manfully defend the territory, honour, and liberty of the Bulgarian nation. Assured that our beloved nation will hasten to support the arduous but sacred task of the defence of our land against the invasion of the enemy, and that every Bulgarian able to bear arms will come under our banner and fight for his country and liberty, we invoke the Almighty to preserve and defend Bulgaria, and to help us in the trying and difficult times through which our country is passing. May Almighty God help us !"

The *Times* says that it is reported from Servia that the following arrangement has been agreed upon between Servia and the Porte in regard to the issue of the Serbo-Bulgarian conflict. As soon as the Servian forces shall have taken Sofia, King Milan will address himself to the Sultan, and not to the Prince of Bulgaria, offering to make peace. It is understood that Servia will obtain territorial aggrandisement, as the Porte is not only indifferent to the truncation of Bulgaria, which is only nominally part of her dominions, but prefers actually a strong Servia to a powerful Bulgaria. By this arrangement it is expected to save as much as possible the position of Prince Alexander, whom Servia does not wish personally to humiliate.

The Brussels *Mouvement Géographique* reports that a horrible crime has been committed on the bank of the Congo, nearly opposite Boma. Some months ago two Dutch factories there were burned down with all they contained. The loss was estimated at 350,000f. It has now been discovered that the two agents in charge of these factories had set them on fire after purloining and selling all the goods in them. They afterwards drowned the negroes under their orders—six men and two women—in the Congo so as to prevent them appearing as witnesses. They have both been arrested, and one confesses the crime. As Portuguese subjects they will be tried at Loanda.

IRELAND.

A dastardly outrage occurred near Tralee on the night of the 13th inst. The victim is Mr. John O'Connor Curtin, a well-to-do farmer of good position, living at Castle Farm, a comfortable country house, at Molahiffe, seven miles from Tralee. At about ten o'clock, when some members of the family had retired to rest and the others were preparing to go, some raps were heard at the kitchen door, and a moment after about a dozen armed and disguised men burst into the room. The two sons of Mr. Curtin, both young men over twenty, confronted them, and the captain of the gang then demanded arms. The eldest son, Daniel, stated he did not know where his father kept his gun, but consented to look for it. Daniel walked from room to room searching for the weapon, the captain of the gang accompanying him, holding a rifle at his head. Mr. Curtin, who was upstairs, came down directly he heard the moonlighters below, with a loaded revolver in his hand. On arriving at the foot of the staircase he found three men blocking the parlour door. His family heard him say, "Now, boys," and then he fired a shot among the mob. The captain, startled, relaxed his guard over the eldest son, and Daniel, seizing the opportunity, caught the ruffian's rifle and pressed it across his chest, pinning him to the wall. The fellow yelled for help, and another of the gang passed him a revolver, but in the meantime old Mr. Curtin and the younger son rushed into the room. Daniel, however, succeeded in throwing the captain upon the floor, and his sister, Miss Nora Curtin, coming to his assistance, tore the mask from the man's face, and he was then instantly recognised as Jade Casey, a farmer's son, living at Firies. In the meantime, Mr. Curtin, sen., was engaged in a struggle in the hall with two or three of the moonlighters, one of whom, named Sullivan, he shot dead on the spot. Almost immediately after, however, Curtin was himself shot in the abdomen, and he fell beside the dead moonlighter. The gang directly afterwards hurried away, one of them jumping through a window to effect his escape. Curtin was carried to bed, and medical assistance speedily procured, but he died at twenty minutes past ten from his wounds. The police at Cork, Tralee, and Castleisland were at once communicated with, and, acting on the information of the family, they arrested Jade Casey, Jeremiah Casey (brothers), two farmers' sons named Sullivan, Terence M'Mahon, and a man named Spring. They are all well-known in the locality. Sullivan, the moonlighter killed, is the son of a widow who owns a small farm near Castle Farm. Mr. Curtin, sen., was about sixty-five years of age. The only reason why Mr. Curtin's house should have been attacked by moonlighters is the fact that he had paid his rent. Nine prisoners were charged with attacking the house and with murdering Mr. Curtin. The proceedings were carried on in private. Evidence was given incriminating seven of the men in custody, and two (M'Mahon and Clifford) were discharged. At Tralee on Monday, Captain Plunkett and Mr. Considine held a magisterial investigation into the charge preferred against the seven men, Henry Spring, John Sullivan, Markes Sullivan, John Casey, Timothy Casey, Jeremiah Sullivan, and Michael Sullivan. Only Timothy Casey and Michael Sullivan were remanded, and the sons of the murdered man fully identified both. The others were discharged for want of evidence. Sullivan and Casey were committed for trial. The report that the dead body of the wounded moonlighter, Sullivan, has been found was incorrect. It was alleged that he was thrown into a river by the other moonlighters when making their escape after the murder of Mr. Curtin; but it now appears that he is alive and in concealment. He was hidden by his comrades in a secure retreat, and remained there for some time. He had two severe wounds, one in the shoulder and one in the stomach, which necessitated the procuring of surgical aid. After the doctor had seen him he was carried to a cave a considerable distance off, where he at present remains. His wounds, however, are of such a terrible nature that it is thought he cannot hold out much longer, and may be forced to surrender himself to justice. Other moonlighters are hiding.

A curious incident occured on Tuesday at the meet near Farran of the hounds of the 11th Hussars. It had been intimated to the master of the hounds by the farmers of the district that no interruption would be offered to their hunting if Dr. Cross, who had rendered himself unpopular, were not permitted to join in the sport. Captain Burrowes had sent an intimation to Dr. Cross pointing out the objection that was made, and requesting him not to take part in the hunt. When the hounds reached Nettleville Dr. Cross rode up, and the master immediately drew off the hounds and put an end to the day's sport.

A meeting of the Roman Catholic clergy of the diocese of Killala was held last week to consider what course should be taken with respect to the payment of rent. The Bishop of Killala was present. After a long discussion, it was resolved to offer the following suggestions to the tenants:—"(1) That, in all cases before paying rent, the tenants should assemble and agree among themselves as to what abatement, if any, they should reasonably expect in the rents now due, and then go in a body and tender their rents on the basis of their agreement; (2) that, in the event of their terms being refused, they should then deposit in the names of trustees those several sums, so that they might be secure and available for further requirements; (8) that we renew our repeated warnings against the commission of crime and outrage, and while we congratulate the people of our respective parishes on immunity from crime we commend their great forbearance in several remarkable instances."

Dr. Caruana, the director of the public library in Malaga, has just made an important discovery. He found a Phœnician inscription of four or five characters engraved on one of the huge stones which form the ancient temple in the island of Gozo, now called the Giants' Tower. It is the first time that Phœnician letters have been found associated with these megalithic structures.

About £3,500, including conditional gifts, have been promised towards the erection of the proposed public building at Slough, which is to be named the Albany Institute, in memory of the late Duke of Albany. A site in Mackenzie-street has been offered by Mr. F. Charsley, and a very handsome design for the hall and institute has been selected.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

A supplement to the *London Gazette* was published on Wednesday, containing proclamations "for dissolving the present Parliament and declaring the calling of another," and "in order to the electing and summoning the sixteen peers of Scotland." The writs, which were issued forthwith, are to be returnable on Tuesday, the 12th day of January next.

Musurus Pasha, the Turkish Ambassador in London, is about to retire, and is to be succeeded by Rustem Pasha, formerly Governor of the Lebanon.

It is announced at Constantinople that Count Corti, the Italian Ambassador to Turkey, is to succeed Count Nigra as Ambassador to the Court of St. James.

A Parliamentary return shows that the average population of the old constituencies to each member was as follows:—England—boroughs, 41,900; counties, 74,500. Wales—counties, 58,500; boroughs, 32,200. Scotland — counties, 65,100; boroughs, 63,300. Ireland—counties, 66,600; boroughs, 24,000. United Kingdom—counties, 70,800; boroughs, 41,200. The new constituencies under the Redistribution Act show the following average population to each member:—England—boroughs, 53,500; counties, 53,500. Wales—counties, 48,400; boroughs, 49,000. Scotland—counties, 52,000; boroughs, 53,800. Ireland—counties, 52,000; boroughs, 47,300. United Kingdom—counties, 52,800; boroughs, 52,700. Inclusive of Universities, the average population to each member in the United Kingdom is now 51,100.

The *Law Journal* states that 180 barristers and 13 solicitors are candidates for seats in Parliament. Of the 193, 90 are Liberals, and 93 Conservatives.

The 116th Colston anniversary was held in Bristol yesterday week at the annual dinner of the Dolphin Society. The Chancnelor of the Exchequer said that Her Majesty's Ministers looked forward to the coming battle with anxiety, but yet with confidence. They did not feel that their conduct during the last few months could be seriously dissented from, because so far as he knew it had never been really attacked. He was glad to see the other day a generous admission by Lord Hartington that Lord Salisbury's conduct of that difficult and complicated Eastern Question had been wise and statesmanlike. Their policy there was clear, was known to their countrymen, and met with their approbation irrespective of party. In Egypt they had taken an important step towards the rectification of Egypt's finance, and another step still more important in obtaining in our difficult work in that country the co-operation of our ally, the Porte, who was the suzerain of Egypt, and the head of the Mohammedan faith. At home he might venture to claim for the programme that had been put before the country by Lord Salisbury and his colleagues, that it satisfied the wants of moderate constitutional reform and in principle was supported by not a few of those whom old ties still bound to the so-called Liberal party. Now he would exhort his heterogeneous audience of Liberals, Radicals, and revolutionists to support their venerable leader, and now the burden of the whole song would be "Whatever we did in the past, whatever is to come in the future, let's have unity in the Liberal party." Well, for his own part, he should very much like to know to what all that was to tend. No doubt it might be difficult to secure unity in the Liberal party, even for the purpose of whitewashing Mr. Gladstone, because there were not a few consistent and honest Radicals like Sir Wilfrid Lawson, who never lost an opportunity of speaking plainly and frankly their abhorrence of his Egyptian policy. They had probably seen something of a speech delivered by Mr. Gladstone a day or two ago upon the question of the future of the Church of England and in Scotland. They found that Mr. Gladstone had no opinion of his own on that important subject, and he did not pledge himself to vote against Dr. Cameron's Disestablishment motion. One thing alone occurred to him, not that it was right or that it was wrong to disestablish and disendow the Church of England, but that the raising of the question at the present moment was detrimental in the highest degree to the interests of the Liberal party. That was a painful and an unworthy position to be occupied by a great and eloquent statesman. The fact was that they had found out, too, that it was a dangerous game to attack the Church of England, and so the question had to be postponed for the moment; but he asked was that a reason for anyone who valued the Church relaxing his exertions in her defence, or voting for a Parliamentary candidate who would not pledge himself to defend her? They knew very well what was likely to be the future of it in this matter, because Mr. Gladstone recently suggested it. By his own reiterated statement to his followers his time as leader was short, and he would be followed by Mr. Chamberlain with his express belief that the endowments of the Church of England were national property, and ought not to be devoted to the service of what he was pleased to call a particular sect. They knew then what they had to expect from that school—and it could not be repeated too often that the old Liberalism was dying, if not dead, and that the new Liberalism was the gospel from Birmingham. He ventured to say the principles of that gospel were mainly corporate and individual plunder. Mr. Chamberlain had recently stated that 7,000,000 acres of land had been enclosed by a Parliament of landowners, ignoring the interests of the poor, and disregarding their rights. That had been denied in a terse and cutting letter by Lord Bramwell, who showed that the poor had no legal rights whatever in these commons, and that the enclosures which had taken place, so far from injuring the poor, had benefited them by increasing the produce of the country and the demand for labour. Again, Mr. Chamberlain, in support of his wonderful scheme for the purchase of estates by local bodies, referred to a proposition Mr. Gladstone made many years ago about encouraging allotments. Mr. Chamberlain actually said that nothing had been done towards encouraging the allotments since that day. Well, everybody knew that he would hardly find a parish where the system had not been put into operation. He was certain that if any such change took place on the allotment principle suggested by Mr. Chamberlain it would end in the greatest national loss conceivable. Let them take the late Government as against the present Government; let the country forecast the future by reference to the past, let it decide how to vote by deeds, not by promises or by words. He did not think their opponents dared to go into the history of the past five years, now could they show one single point on which their promises had not been falsified. Their Irish policy in the past had been a failure, and left the country more disaffected than when they took it in hand with a majority independent of both the Conservatives and Parnellites. These were the men who again asked the country to trust to them the affairs of this great empire. He could not believe that England could be so credulous or foolish as to yield to such a request. He was confident that, looking to the importance of the crisis with which they had had to deal, there was not a man or woman in that room who would leave a stone unturned during the next fortnight or three weeks to do what they could to preserve the Constitution which was dear to them, and to secure to their children and children's children that which they valued so much for themselves.

Earl Granville, speaking at the Anchor dinner in celebration of the anniversary, alluded to the question of free trade, and in doing so said that the new fair traders had the advantage of being believed to be in earnest, whereas it was impossible to believe that a man of such ability as Lord Salisbury could believe in the resuscitation of a war of hostile tariffs, which was tried without success for twenty-five years, and which Lord Beaconsfield mathematically proved was impossible at the present day. Protectionist Ministers were ashamed of their name. They denied they were Protectionists. Though they advocated the thing they had not sufficient imagination to invent a new name for themselves. They were so reactionary that they went back to an old name, that of fair-traders, which was the name that old smugglers gave themselves. Lord Granville said he would like to see party reform. He had strong political objections to the abolition of the House of Lords. He had always thought it was nearly suicidal on the part of the House of Lords to have taken the course they did on the life peerage of Lord Wensleydale. There were other reforms he should gladly see, but until Lord Salisbury left that House, and until so good a reformer as Sir Charles Dilke came into it, there might be some little difficulty as to a move of a practical character in that direction. The real dissatisfaction was caused by their want of touch with the House of Commons, which was becoming more and more popular in its character, while the whole future of the House of Lords depended upon the temper of the House itself, and the manner in which it was led.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach addressed a meeting of electors of the St. Augustine's polling district in the Western Division of Bristol on Saturday evening. Having replied to the observations of Lord Granville at the Anchor dinner on the previous evening, he proceeded to deal with the question of the depression of trade, and expressed regret that Lord Granville had deemed it fit to speak of the Royal Commission of Inquiry as an electioneering sham. The Liberals preached free trade; but would not even consider whether any active steps could be taken to enforce the free-trade doctrines by a little more pressure upon these recalcitrant foreigners, and lead other nations by something more than words into the path which they would be all glad to see them follow. In conclusion, Sir Michael appealed to electors of all shades of political opinion to refuse their votes to those who were halting on the question of the disestablishment of the Church.

The right hon. gentleman, speaking at Bristol on Monday, said that from all the information yet received it appeared that Servia was responsible for the present outbreak of war between that country and Bulgaria. If such was really the case, he hardly ever remembered a more wanton and unfair aggression on a neighbouring State than this upon Bulgaria. He trusted that in this matter the nations of Europe might all have the same desire which animated Her Majesty's Government and had animated them from the beginning—to restrict the area of hostilities to the Balkan Peninsula as much as possible, and to secure a permanent peace. But now that the fire had been lighted, they could not tell how far the conflagation might extend. It might be that that which looked very serious at the moment might be put an end to before long, without going to any mischievous length. On the other hand, it might be, and he trusted to God it would not be, that they were at the opening of one of the greatest European conflicts which had desolated nations and empires. However that might be, they had but one interest in this matter, and that was this. No doubt we were deeply concerned in the Eastern question, but at the present moment we were not more concerned in it than any of the other Powers which signed the Treaty of Berlin. The Government would endeavour to put an end to the conflict, to secure a permanent peace, and to maintain above everything the interests of England.

Lord Hartington on Saturday addressed two meetings of the electors of the Rossendale Division of Lancashire. Speaking at Helmshore, he controverted at some length the opinions of his opponent (Mr. Ecroyd), especially with regard to the fiscal and commercial policy, and said that it would have a bad effect upon public opinion throughout the country if it were to be said that the working men of Lancashire had for a moment given their adhesion to the doctrines which had been proposed on the subject of fair trade. In the evening his Lordship addressed a crowded meeting at Waterburn, and charged the Conservatives with endeavouring to discredit the Liberal party and Liberal statesmen by vituperating everything which they had done in the past, and by raising personal questions. He discussed the various subjects which are likely to be raised in the next Parliament; and, with regard to the Irish question, said he thought that no experiment for the reconstitution of local government should be made without its application in England as well as Ireland.

Lord Breadalbane, speaking at a Liberal meeting at Stansted, Essex, on Saturday, said that he wished to see the system of small holdings really established in England. He had many on his estates, and the small farmers were the best tenants he had. With the labour required on the larger holdings from those of the lesser ones they could maintain a comfortable existence. Every village ought to have a large common. Thousands of acres in this country had been illegally enclosed. He did not wish for the disestablishment of the Church, but was in favour of reform. The owners of land and of the tithe ought to be held responsible for the repair of the fabric and for the payment of ministers. In one town in the south of England the tithe was £700, but the clergyman only received £200, and no one knew where the rest went to. In an adjoining village no service had been held for two years, because the church wanted restoring. This he would remedy by making the owner of the tithe responsible.

The Earl of Iddesleigh addressed a crowded meeting at the Riding School at Knightsbridge on Monday evening, in support of the candidature of Mr. Burdett-Coutts for Westminster. Mr. G. A. Spottiswoode presided. Lord Iddesleigh, who was received with prolonged cheering, said that there were some things dear and some things cheap, but national humiliation was not cheap, and the people would not stand it. The question for the ensuing election was whether the people would or would not stand by the position England had gained, would they or would they not adhere to its oldest traditions? Metropolitan constituencies had opportunities of taking a wider view of the situation than others were able to do. They were able to say whether they would maintain a balanced constitution or would substitute one in which one party alone would have the power. He did not want to crush the Liberal party, but he was anxious to save it from the consequences of what was arising within its own body. Moderate Liberals were being partly dragged, partly crushed, partly coerced into a course of proceeding which must be detestable to the great bulk of them. He wanted to get the Liberals of this country to speak out in public as many of them did in private. With the late Government they never knew to-day what course would be taken to-morrow. There was a notion abroad that the English were partly self-seeking and partly mad, and undoubtedly the conduct of the late Government gave colour to both those views. Could the late Government expect a larger majority than they had in 1880, and if not how could they expect to do better than they did when they had a large majority, and when they failed egregiously in both foreign and domestic affairs? The leaders of that party were going about saying different one from another. The great head of the party had gone down to Scotland to endeavour to persuade the shrewd people there that what they had to do at present was to keep their opponents' eyes as close shut as possible. Mr. Gladstone, like the woodman in Æsop's fable, was asking the trees to give him a handle for his axe, intending when he got it to cut them down.

Addressing a meeting at Evesham on Monday evening, in support of the candidature for the Southern division of Worcester of his brother, Mr. Arthur Chamberlain, Mr. Chamberlain, M.P., who met with considerable interruption, said the power of their opponents was fast slipping away. Not long ago there was not a dog could wag its tail in any English village without their gracious permission; but the recent extension of the franchise had altered all that. The people should never forget that the leopard could not change his spots, and that it was very unlikely that any advantageous proposals could be extracted from the Conservative party. Another point on which past experience gave a lesson and warning was that of free trade. At the present moment the Tories sought, by criticising the foreign policy of the late Government, to divert the attention of the country from what were the real issues before it, and they had failed to bring forward any programme of proposals that would be for the practical advantage of the people. As to local government, he said that what the Liberal party proposed was to give full authority to local representative bodies, so that they might protect the remaining rights of the poor in regard to common lands, open spaces, and other things, and they also thought it would be expedient to restore them those rights which had been improperly invaded. Some people, however, could never bear to hear the rights of the poor spoken of. They could appreciate the rights of property, almost adore the hereditary rights of the peerage, and could reverence the rights of the Church; but any mention of the rights of the poor filled them with indignation. He had been taken to task by Lord Bramwell for this; but a greater authority than Lord Bramwell—namely, the late Mr. John Stuart Mill—had said he could not speak of the existing practice of dividing common lands among the landlords by any gentler name than that of robbery of the poor. As to the charitable endowments, they ought at all events to be kept sacred and be scrupulously preserved for their original purpose. Coming to the question of allotments, which the right hon. gentleman said was one of the greatest importance to the rural districts, he asked whether the rural electors had made up their minds as to what the Tories really meant on that subject. They had hitherto expressed opposite opinions on the subject. The fact was that if they waited for the landlords nothing would be done. The real objection of the landlords was, he said, that they did not like having to give up their land at a fair price. The right hon. gentleman then turned to the question of free education, in favour of which he pronounced a strong opinion. He denied that it was intended to interefere with the Voluntary schools or to exclude religion fron the National schools.

Sir R. A. Cross, speaking at Dalton on Monday night, in support of the Conservative candidate for North Lonsdale, said he was as much against Parliamentary obstruction as any man possibly could be, and had said so both in the House and on the platform. There was obstruction when the Conservatives were last in power, and Sir Stafford Northcote at the time brought forward five resolntions, but was only able to carry one, as they were delayed so much by prolonged discussion, and they were ultimately abandoned. Their bitterest opponent at that time was the gentleman who now spoke so loudly of the liberties of the House of Commons—his predecessor in office, Sir William Harcourt. If ever there was a man who opposed the amending of the rules of the House of Commons, Sir William Harcourt was the man.

Mr. W. H. Smith on Tuesday night addressed a meeting of the electors of South St. Pancras, in support of the Conservative candidate, Mr. Blundell Maple. Mr. Smith said that the period was one of crisis. There had been a Government which had enormously increased the expenditure of the country, which had brought England upon the verge of war, which had poured out blood like water in Egypt, which had failed to secure the respect and confidence

of the Powers of Europe, and now the party which constituted the Government asked to be returned to power. Putting party politics and party faction on one side, as plain common-sense men of business, as men of the world, as traders, as workmen, as fathers of families, did they desire that the policy of the past five years should be renewed and continued? That was the question. He heard someone say "Yes." That one word was illustrative of the possibilities of faction and of party feeling. Their charge against the late Government was that it sought to maintain its own popularity, that it trimmed its course to wind, weather, tides, and seasons. Our infirmity of purpose had made us the laughing-stock of the Continent. It was notorious that when one of Her Majesty's late Government announced that certain things were to be done, if a demand for satisfaction would be made nothing would come of it. Was it safe to go on in that way? Speaking as one charged with the conduct of affairs, he regarded with great apprehension and concern the evidences of disturbance which were shown in the East of Europe at the present. Prudence, courage, great sense of responsibility were necessary to our Government; and the Government, if the interests of the country were to be protected, must be one which would have the respect of Europe. Was there reason to believe that those who had preceded them would obtain that respect and would possess that prudence?

Mr. W. H. Smith addressed a meeting of his supporters on Wednesday night at the Old Friends' Hall, St. Martin's-lane. Commenting on Mr. Gladstone's speech of the previous evening, he said that it enunciated no principle, and insisted on nothing except the necessity of the preponderance of the Liberal party, and of keeping separate the questions of disestablishing the Scotch and the English Churches. He criticised severely the late Prime Ministers's apology for the conduct of his Government and the charge he had made against the Conservatives in the House of Commons of fostering all their errors, rebutting the charge by showing that all the errors arose from the late Government having no mind nor policy of their own.

Lord Iddesleigh, speaking at the annual meeting of the Exeter Chamber of Commerce on Wednesday, maintained that the Commission on Depression in Trade had rendered great service to commerce, though the value of its labours might have been enhanced by more complete returns from some Chambers. He stated that the condition of the iron trade would engage attention when the Commission next met.

Sir Michael Hicks-Beach, speaking at Gloucester on Wednesday night, referred to Mr. Gladstone's expressed desire for an early withdrawal of our troops from Egypt, and said the people of this country recognised the important fact that we had interests of great moment in Egypt; that we had obligations to perform to the people of that country which could not be performed if we were always endeavouring to shirk our responsibilities and talking of an early withdrawal; and that the welfare of our commerce and industry depended upon a firm foreign policy and upon the maintenance of English interests abroad. Mr. Gladstone had charged him with condemning the conduct of Lord Spencer in Ireland. He challenged Mr. Gladstone or anybody else to quote any language of his, in or out of the House of Commons, in condemnation of Lord Spencer.

The Duke of Norfolk presided on Wednesday night at a meeting held at the Neckinger Drill Hall, in support of Colonel Hamilton, the Conservative candidate for Rotherhithe. His Grace, in the course of his remarks, said that the present Government, as the party who had the well-being of the country at heart, should be kept in power. They had had a long opportunity of judging of the late Government; but the present Government had been in office just long enough to show how great was the difference between a Radical and a Tory Government. The present Government were determined to lay solid foundations, to build slowly but surely, and so raise a fabric that would stand the test of time. The English people might be sure of one thing, that the Conservatives would not make rash and vain promises, and then run away from the offices they held in times of difficulty, as the late Government did. The Liberals might snatch a party triumph, but in doing so they would be inflicting a lasting mischief on their country.

Mr. Bourke on Wednesday night, addressing a meeting at King's Lynn, said that he did not agree with Mr. Chamberlain's principle that all shipowners were criminals. In his opinion, the hostile attack upon the brewing interests had not only been injurious to brewers themselves, but to agricultural interests also. Mr. Gladstone during his present campaign had disgusted his friends and made himself ridiculous in the eyes of his opponents. His assertion that the English Church question had been brought forward by the Conservatives as an electioneering scheme was contradicted in his own address and by thousands of witnesses. The result of these tactics had been to increase the ranks of the Conservative party.

Mr. Bright on Wednesday night addressed two crowded meetings of the electors of Central Birmingham. In the course of his remarks he acknowledged the difficulty of dealing with Parliamentary procedure. He suggested, however, that the remedy was in the hands of the constituencies, who should refuse to return members known to be guilty of obstruction. He was in favour of county government, a question which could only be dealt with properly by the Liberals; and thought that the land question could be dealt with much more easily now than ten or twenty years ago. Mr. Bright also referred to the extravagant expenditure on our military and naval services as one of the great causes of depression and distress.

Mr. Chamberlain, speaking on Wednesday night at Birmingham, condemned the diversion of charitable endowments for the benefit of the middle and upper classes as robbery of the poor, and contended that local charities should be locally administered. Referring to the depression of trade, he ridiculed the idea of a Royal Commission, consisting chiefly of protectionists and crotchetmongers, finding a remedy. He spoke in favour of trade unionism, and also advocated shorter hours for shopkeepers' assistants.

The Postmaster-General, speaking at Wymondham, Leicestershire, on Thursday, said, on the subject of local government, that during the past fifty years the Liberals had had longer periods of office than the Tories, but they had not, as far as he knew, introduced a single measure on the subject. They were now all of a sudden smitten with an intense desire to improve and reform the local government of the country. On the other hand, the Tories had introduced two such measures, one of which would have passed had it received the encouragement it ought to have done. The Liberals had not promised any remission of local taxation to accompany any great scheme of local self-government, while the Conservatives had given an earnestness of their readiness to do so in granting remissions, in subventions as they were called, from the public exchequer. With reference to foreign policy, Mr. Gladstone, speaking in Scotland, had no words but those of commendation for the foreign policy of the present Government. In regard to Ireland, he would ask if any one wished to see the management of that country again confided to Mr. Gladstone's hands. He compared the present condition of Ireland with its condition in 1880, when Lord Beaconsfield resigned office, and said every one who knew its present deplorable condition, after all the sacrifices of principle which had been made, would see that these sacrifices on the part of the late Government had failed utterly and hopelessly in improving either the social, moral, physical, or political condition of that country. What Ireland wanted now was firmness and quiet; but could we hope to get it from men who avowed their differences as to the proper treatment of Ireland on every platform? One Liberal statesman said he would settle the Irish question by handing over everything to the management of the popular leaders of the Irish people, including the police, and another great Liberal statesman said he would do a great deal on that question, but would never hand over the control of the police to these leaders. In short, they had every degree of opinion expressed by these coalescing statesmen, coalesced only for the purpose of securing a return to power, but hopelessly divided if they did secure it.

Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett, speaking at Sheffield on Thursday night, asserted that the exact measure of Mr. Gladstone's incapacity to direct the affairs of a great country was contained in a statement made by the right hon. gentleman on Tuesday night, when he asserted that the most dangerous of all matters the late Government had to deal with, in the last few years, was the question of the Soudan. The question of the Soudan was, no doubt, a serious one, but to say that it was a more dangerous question than the advance of Russia towards India, the loss of our South African colonies, the terror and coercion in Ireland, our influence in Egypt and control over the Suez Canal, or of our alliances in Europe, was an utter absurdity. This statement of the right hon. gentleman showed that he estimated the importauce of a public question, not by its intrinsic value, but by the effect on his own Administration. With regard to his Egyptian policy, Mr. Gladstone had made a scandalous misstatement—viz., that there was not an error that the late Government committed that was not fostered by the party opposite. What was the truth with regard to the conduct of the Tory party? In every single detail of policy they had urged timely and courageous action, and if their advice had been carried out grievous loss of life and treasure would have been spared, and Mr. Gladstone's Ministry would have escaped great dishonour. Mr. Gladstone's charge was most false and unworthy. As to Afghanistan, Mr. Gladstone had said that when the late Government came into power that country was broken to pieces, and the grey hairs of an old Sovereign had just been brought down in sorrow to the grave. What were the facts? The late Ameer, Shere Ali, terrified by the advance of the Russian arms, besought the English Government for a real and permanent alliance. The only answer he could obtain from the shufflers in Downing-street was the memorable telegram from Mr. Gladstone and the Duke of Argyll to Lord Northbrook:—"Tell the Ameer that we do not share his alarm." That puerile despatch was at once the gauge of Liberal ineptitude, and the keystone of all our dangers and troubles in Central Asia. Shere Ali, being alarmed, threw himself into the arms of Russia. That was the real cause of the Afghan war in 1878. In that year Lord Beaconsfield and Lord Lytton found themselves in the presence of dangers which no British Government could for a moment neglect. The results of Lord Beaconsfield's Afghan war were (1), the expulsion of Russian influence from Afghanistan; (2), the prevention of the Russian forces from advancing a single mile towards India; (3), the attainment of a secure frontier for India; (4), the possession of the historic fortress of Candahar, the greatest position for arms and for trade in Central Asia; (5), the construction of a splendid railway from the Indus to Quetta and Candahar, which would have made our military position in Central Asia impregnable, and would have rendered the Russian advance of the last three years all but impossible. Mr. Gladstone had caused the expenditure of over £20,000,000, and a permanent addition of £2,000,000 a year to the Indian Budget, by his policy of giving up Candahar, the frontier, and the railway, and by bringing the Russians 700 miles nearer India, and planting them in firm possession of Afghan territory. The contrast between the policies of the two Ministries in India and Central Asia was not one which Mr. Gladstone was wise to invite.

Sir R. Cross, addressing a meeting at Stacksteads on Thursday in support of the candidature of Mr. Ecroyd for Rossendale, said that if they might judge from the speeches made in Scotland during the last few days and the way they had been received, and the disturbance they had created throughout the country, he was inclined to think that the power of the late Prime Minister was on the wane; while if they judged from the way the foreign policy of the Conservative Government had been received in this country and throughout Europe, he should be inclined to say that the power of the present Prime Minister was growing stronger every day. In his opinion the failure of the foreign policy of the late Liberal Government was due to the fact that the Ministers could never agree among themselves. There was no unity of purpose among them, and there was no firmness in council nor decision in action. If the people returned the late Government again to power, they would make themselves responsible for all the blood and treasure lost through the mistakes of that Government. It had been said that the Liberals put in the foundations and built the walls, and the Conservatives had put on the roof. It was quite true that the foundations were in and the walls built, but he was sorry to say that they found the walls were cracked and the foundations unsafe. Since the Liberal Government left office there had been a new disturbance in foreign affairs, and it had been a most complicated and difficult one; he meant the invasion of Roumelia and the action of the Prince of Bulgaria. He believed the Government had taken wise and prudent counsel in that matter. They were united, which the Liberals never were, and they had so far been enabled to act with the consent of Europe, which the Liberals had the greatest difficulty in doing. The election was not going to turn upon local government or the transfer of land, on which they were agreed, but on things on which they were not agreed. He desired to warn moderate Liberals of the danger ahead. There was a large party in England which would destroy our Constitution and the union of the Church and State, and deprive the people of one of their most important birthrights—the power to have their children educated in Christianity. It was all very well for the Liberal party to agree upon the programme Mr. Gladstone put out, but the Liberal party were not agreed upon the extended programme. The first Midlothian campaign was a great success, but he had no hesitation in saying that the present Midlothian campaign had been an utter failure.

The Countess of Dudley, having received a letter from Sir Edmund Lechmere, the Conservative candidate for the Bewdley Division of Worcestershire, inquiring which side she and her son "would be disposed to support at the election," Lady Dudley, in reply, deprecates any wish to interfere with voters on the Dudley estates, but says with regard to the wishes of her son and herself, "We sincerely hope that the canvass by the Conservative candidates will result in their election, and I feel certain had my husband still been here he would have felt as we now feel, and have thrown his personal interest in favour of the Conservatives. His well-known attachment to the Church of England, which he aided in every possible manner, would have led him to defend her to the utmost extent of his power now that hostile forces are being arrayed against her. He would have opposed strongly the Socialistic doctrines as to property, landed or otherwise, which are now being urged with such vehemence, and which endanger the future prosperity of England."

MR. GLADSTONE AT WEST CALDER.

Mr. Gladstone addressed a meeting at West Calder on Tuesday. Having congratulated Scotland on the great extension of the suffrage and the addition to the number of its representatives in Parliament, he replied briefly to Mr. Parnell's challenge to formulate his plans for extending local government in Ireland. His reply was that all he had pledged himself to was to give full attention to the wishes of Ireland, constitutionally expressed, and that as yet he did not know what these wishes were. Mr. Gladstone then reverted to the question of Disestablishment, for the purpose, as it appeared, of supplying an omission in a previous speech. He had then inflicted on the Liberal Dissenters a grievous disappointment, but had failed to temper it with any compensating words or with any acknowledgment of the indebtedness of the party to them. He condoled with his disestablishing friends upon the disappointment he had been compelled to inflict, for the object of their desires was not yet, in his opinion, practicable; and he praised them as "the backbone of the party, as men who have never deviated from the steadiness of their purpose, men with regard to whom you may say that you always know where they are, that you always know when a public case comes forward they will not be finding small reasons and petty excuses for not supporting it; but whenever they see the cause of right and justice they will go straight to the mark."

Mr. Gladstone went on to speak of the present Government, its conduct, and the treatment it should receive. What he was disposed to wish regarding it was "that their conduct should be as like ours as it was possible, and that the treatment which they receive may be as unlike as possible the treatment we received." He condemned as injurious to imperial interests the incessant questioning of the late Opposition on matters of the utmost delicacy and difficulty, saying that the questions were put only from a disposition to do mischief to the Government, and regardless of the vital interests of the country. He went on to say that the most dangerous of all matters with which the late Government had to deal was the question of the Soudan.

"It has cost this country some blood and much treasure, and I have admitted with regret that I could not say we in every instance and at every step of our difficult path arrived at a right judgment. I think in some points not immaterial with respect to the Soudan it is clear that we fell into error. What I have said is this—that there was not an error that we have committed that was not fostered by the party opposite, and that the complaint against us amounts simply to this—that we did not commit more errors and greater. There may be some who think that that is a sweeping accusation. Let me illustrate it by a particular point. The question was immediately brought up on our quitting office whether it was desirable or not to continue the evacuation of the Soudan. We held that it was, that no good was to be done, and that great mischief was to be done, by organising efforts for the purpose of the conquest of that country or for the purpose of establishing a government according to our ideas in that country. That is our opinion; we place it before you for your judgment. What did the incoming Government say? The incoming Government said that that opinion was a great mistake, that we ought to have continued military operations in the Soudan—that we ought to have remained there until we had established by military force institutions for the government of that savage country. But it was added that our policy, our acts, had gone too far and could not be recalled; consequently that evacuation was to be continued, and we were to close our accounts with the Soudan. I lay that before you, because the statement is a fact which is perfectly unquestionable—namely, that we in principle contended for leaving the Soudan; that our opponents contended in principle against it and said we should continue there; but it was too late to do it. That will enable you judge whether I am unreasonable when I say that the complaint of our opponents against us was not against such errors as we committed, but because we did not commit more and greater errors, and because, when the errors became palpable, we did not persevere and push them to extremities. Do you think it would have been wise for you to have continued military operations, which were never intended for the conquest of the Soudan, for this wild purpose, and in defiance of climate, circumstances, and political relations—for this wild purpose of establishing institutions there by force over the head and ears of the people?"

With regard to Afghanistan, he observed that the present Government had adhered to the lines which the late Administration had laid down, and he was happy to understand that proceedings which were going on were expected to reach a satisfactory termination. Mr. Gladstone had no fault, either, to find with the policy of the present Government with regard to events in the Balkan Peninsula.

"I think, so far as I know what is going on, that Lord Salisbury deserves credit for the course which he has taken in regard to the recent transactions in that peninsula. When the two portions of Bulgaria which were united by the Treaty of San Stefano and disjoined by the Treaty of Berlin again united themselves by a popular movement, that self-love of which I suppose most of us are conscious, and by which all of us are on some occasions swayed, might have prompted Lord Salisbury to take a strong and indignant position against those who attempted to change the Treaty of Berlin. On the contrary, he appears to have taken a prudent and practical view of the case, and to have been disposed to respect the desire of the Bulgarian peoples north and south of the Balkans to form one political community. . . . . I will not undertake to tell you what ought to be done in this difficult circumstance. All that I will say is, as far as I am able to judge, the Government of the day, with Lord Salisbury at its head, and Lord Salisbury holding the seals of the Foreign Department, have been regulating their proceedings by sound principles of which no Englishman need be ashamed. And so long as they continue to direct themselves on that question upon those principles, as far as I am concerned—and I am sure I can answer for those who have been my colleagues—they will receive our best support."

Coming to matters at home, Mr. Gladstone strongly condemned Sir Michael Hicks-Beach for the countenance he gave to those who condemned Lord Spencer. Mr. Gladstone then expressed disapproval and lamented the appointment of a Royal Commission to inquire into the state of trade.

"There is no more plausible proceeding than, when there is difficulty, to appoint a Royal Commission to make an inquiry. It takes it off the shoulders of the Executive Government. It takes it off the shoulders of those who are responsible, and places it upon the shoulders of those men who are not responsible at all. I have no doubt the members of the Royal Commission will do their best; but you have no hold upon them; and whatever they report will be made use of to diminish the responsibility of Ministers, to whom you ought to look, and who, if no available remedies are at hand, ought to have the courage to say so."

He did not question the fact that distress had prevailed in the country; but this he must say:—

"Those who are as old as I am will be able to make useful and fruitful comparisons between the distress of the last few years and the distress that I recollect in my youth—the cases of distress and the period of distress that occurred between the year 1815 and the passing of the Reform Bill. These were periods indeed severe. The characteristic of the present distress has been this—that as regards capital there has been a great diminution of the profits, a good deal of stagnation, and a very large amount of suffering in certain branches of industry, such as agriculture and the coal industry; but it has been attended with this mitigating circumstance, that there has not been general and severe distress among the working population of the country. No doubt in the coal trade and in the shipping trade—perhaps these are the most remarkable interests—there has been a diminution of employment, and with that diminution of employment considerable distress, which I deeply lament; but you must regard this fact—that most of the working population of the country have during the last two or three years been enjoying the benefit of access to articles of food and articles of clothing upon better terms than they ever knew before. There are a great number of people in whose eye it appears that if capitalists are not quite so well off as they were, the question of the condition of the working-classes is secondary. I exactly reverse these two positions. I say that if the mass of the people, who are really dependent on their daily labour, are relatively not ill off in the greater portion of our branches of industry, it is a matter for great regret, but still it is a secondary matter to know that the accumulation of capital is not going on quite as rapidly as it did.

As to the remedies for these distresses, he could only say that those who are promoters of the Royal Commission had never suggested any remedies, or the remedies they suggested were a great deal worse than the disease. "This taxation upon foreign manufactures has behind it something still more serious, and the revival of what as yet no one has had the courage to name; but if devices like this Commission get countenance you will hear of it soon enough, and that is your old friend—a tax upon corn." Is it to be considered as serious, he asked, that at this day any Liberal should be seduced away from his colours to support "this piece of quackery that is called a Royal Commission, without plan, without purpose, without compass, and without guidance, with no definite creed or object, only with the latent purpose in the minds of some who did not like to speak it out, that the system of free commerce was again to be set aside, and a system of restricted and bound-up commerce brought again on the Statute-book of this country?"

Painted windows as a memorial of departed worth and gallantry have an interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor has at all times pleasure in showing his works in progress, both for church and hall, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates sent. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London, W.

OUR BURMESE WARS.

Our war with Burmah, now fully declared, is but one chapter—which (remarks the *Globe*) we may hope will be the concluding one—in a long chronicle. From the time of Clive, the Burmese have been a source of constant trouble to the Indian authorities. The desire for retrenchment so generally expressed after the long period of costly warfare under Wellesley almost compelled the Government to overlook several acts of extortion and oppression on the part of the Burmese ruler, who even dared to place an embargo on British shipping at Rangoon. Such tolerance is, in the East, invariably construed as a sign of weakness or fear, and as a natural consequence the King of Burmah became bolder and more menacing until, in 1819, his troops actually invaded the territories of the East India Company. Some four years later Lord Amherst became Governor-General of India, and immediately turned his attention to the conduct of the Burmese, who, in the meantime, had continued their aggression, and, moreover, had subjugated Assam. Matters were brought to a crisis by a treacherous onslaught on the British garrison of Shapuree Island, and on the 5th March, 1824, Lord Amherst declared war. In those days of rapid movements, it seems strange to read that the small British force, of under 20,000 men, took three months to reach Burmese territory by land from Calcutta, while the contingent that proceeded by the sea route did not appear before Rangoon until the 10th May. The Burmese, however, were completely taken by surprise, and in face of a feeble and ill-directed fire the British troops effected a landing on the 11th, and in less than twenty minutes the British flag was flying in the captured city, whose conquest did not cost the life of a single British soldier or the discharge of a single musket. The war thus so happily inaugurated was not, however, destined to be rapidly carried to a successful issue. The Burmese fled into the jungles, and all means resorted to in order to induce them to bring in supplies were unavailing. Foot by foot the onward march of the British troops was stubbornly contested. Formidable stockades were everywhere opposed to their progress, from behind which the enemy kept up a constant fire, necessitating the utmost caution. The difficulties attending the march were increased by heavy rains, flooding the country for months, and followed by malarial disease among the troops that nearly decimated them. For two weary years the war was prolonged in face of ever-increasing dangers and difficulties, but one by one the stockades were taken, and at length, on the 26th January, 1826, when our troops were within easy reach of Ava, the King made peace, ceding Assam and the Tenasserim coast, and guaranteeing an indemnity of £1,000,000. The cost of the campaign was, however, more than twelve millions, besides the irreparable loss of brave men's lives, fully one-half of the small force engaged having perished by disease or by losses in action.

The treaty of Yandaboo, which marked the close of the first Burmese war, guaranteed in perpetuity the security of our merchants and commerce, but only twenty-six years elapsed before dark clouds again began to collect on the political horizon, and our merchants were subjected to such exactions and petty tyrannies as threatened to put an end to all commerce with the country. An English captain of a trading vessel was seized and imprisoned, placed in the stocks, and condemned to pay a fine of 900 rupees, on the uncorroborated testimony of a Burmese pilot, whose bad faith was clearly evident. Mild representations were made, but were met with evasive answers. A considerable amount of parleying took place between the British representatives and the Governor of Rangoon, but all attempts to gain reparation for the outrage and insult were treated with derision. On the 6th January, 1852, Commodore Lambert, fully convinced that nothing but force would induce the Burmese to respect the British flag, declared the Rangoon, Bassein, and Salwein rivers to be in a state of blockade, and three days later hostilities actually commenced by the Burmese firing upon the *Fox*, which, needless to say, returned the compliment with decided effect. Some delay took place in fitting out the expeditionary force, but on the 31st March the first batch of troops moved off. The strength of the force was only 4,400 at starting, but was ultimately increased to thrice that number. The ensuing operations merely consisted of an unbroken series of victories, gained not without sacrifice of many valuable lives, and after much severe fighting, in which many officers, notably "Ensign Wolseley, of Her Majesty's 80th Foot," gained distinction, and shed their blood for the honour of their country. Thus, on the 5th April, Martaban was taken without much difficulty. Rangoon fell on the 14th, and Bassein on the 19th of the same month. Prome was occupied on the 10th October, after a fatiguing march through a desolated country, in which not even a grain of rice was to be found. Pegu was captured, after six hours' hard fighting under a Burmese sun, on the 21st November, and the war thereby practically terminated, although a considerable amount of work had yet to be done in the way of breaking up strong bands of plunderers who still infested the country.

The farce of a treaty with the Burmese King was not enacted on this occasion, as the province of Pegu was annexed to the British territories in the East by proclamation. The last clause of this proclamation should be remembered at the present juncture. It reads:—"But if the King of Ava should fail to renew his former relations of friendship with the British Government. . . . the Governor-General in Council will again put forth the power he holds, and will visit with full retribution aggressions which, if they be persisted in, must of necessity lead to the total subversion of the Burman State, and to the ruin and exile of the King and his race." Unfortunately for himself, King Theebaw has not paid sufficient heed to this solemn warning. Insult to the British flag, and extortion exercised towards British merchants, have for the third time entailed war upon his country. The present prosperous condition of Pegu, and the experience of former years, should teach the authorities that the only way to avert constantly recurring trouble in that quarter is to carry into effect the above-quoted threat of annexation. The best interests of the natives, and also of our Indian empire, demand this solution of the difficulty. Then, and not otherwise, will the third Burmese war be the last.

The Rev. John Mackenzie, late Deputy-Commissioner in Bechuanaland, is expected to arrive in England in about a fortnight.

THE DISESTABLISHMENT AGITATION.

A correspondence has taken place between Mr. C. A. Fyffe, the Liberal candidate, and some of the most distinguished Churchmen in Oxford on the Disestablishment question. Canon Holland forwarded the following memorial to Mr. Fyffe:—

"Dear Sir,—As electors for the city of Oxford who are both Churchmen and Liberals, we desire to ask your views on a point which we believe to be of especial importance at the present time. The question of Disestablishment, though it has been drawn into some of the political discussions of the moment, is not definitely brought before the constituencies at the impending General Election. We do not desire in any way to hamper you as regards the general question, but we strongly deprecate any attempt to prejudge it in a Parliament elected, as the coming Parliament will be, on other issues. We therefore beg to ask whether in voting for you we may feel assured that you consider this question to be one with which the new Parliament should not attempt to deal, and that if elected you will do nothing, as our representative, to forward any measure or resolution in favour of the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church of England until the issue has been laid fully and definitely before the constituencies."

This was signed by the Archdeacon of Oxford, Canon Driver, Canon Holland, the Warden of All Souls', the President of Trinity, the Warden of Merton, the President of Magdalen, and several other distinguished members of the University. The following is Mr. Fyffe's reply:—

"69, *St. Giles-street, Oxford, Nov.* 12.

"Dear Canon Holland,—I beg to acknowledge your own letter, accompanied by a memorial bearing the names of some of the most distinguished men in Oxford. Such a memorial is entitled to my most respectful attention, and I assure you that no single word of apology was necessary from yourself in presenting it, for it contains nothing whatever that any candidate might regard as unduly pressing upon himself. The position described by the memorialists with regard to the disestablishment of the Church of England is precisely that which from the first has been my own. I most strongly hold that the work which the coming Parliament is entitled, by its mandate from the nation, to undertake does not include Disestablishment. You may, therefore, feel assured that, if elected by the city of Oxford, I shall do nothing, as your representative, to forward either a measure or a resolution in favour of the disestablishment or disendowment of the Church of England until the question has been fully and definitely laid before the constituencies at some other general election, held especially with the view to the decision of this particular question. May I add that, whether the question of Disestablishment has been forced to the front by Liberal or by Tory hands, I deeply regret that it should have been so? The work of national reform and improvement now immediately incumbent upon us is surely great enough to employ the energies of all our ablest men for some years to come. How great will be the loss if, by the unnecessary conjuring up of objects of contention, we alienate men whose hearts are with us in seeking the public good! How great would be the gain if future and problematic differences could for a moment be forgotten, and men now to some extent divided by ecclesiastical position would combine in forwarding what in itself all would confess to be just and right!—Yours very truly, C. A. FYFFE."

Canon Holland in reply writes to Mr. Fyffe to the effect that his letter has given complete and unqualified satisfaction.

A number of the beneficed clergy of London, many of them professing Liberal opinions, have issued a pastoral to their congregations. They point out that the disendowment of the Church is proposed in a scheme described in *The Radical Programme* (a book prefaced by Mr. Chamberlain), and that, though the Liberal party have expressed their opinion that the measure cannot be carried in the next Parliament, it will afford little security if "we by our votes return a Parliament with a majority in favour of the measure." The pastoral continues:—

"We cannot join in the cry that the 'Church is in danger,' for we are confident that even if her property be confiscated, the Church of England will continue to carry on her work, though its efficiency in some parts must be temporarily affected.

"The Church of England is the only religious body in the country that acknowledges it to be its absolute duty to provide religious ministrations in every place, however few or however poor the people. The Church holds her endowments, not to enable the rich to offer to God a worship which costs them nothing, but rather that the poor may be placed on an equality with the rich in spiritual privileges, in the labours of the ministry, and in the possession of all the accessories of worship.

"If these objects have not hitherto been fully attained, we call upon you as loyal Churchmen so to use your influence in favour of Church reform that your Church may attain to her own ideal as 'the Church of the People.'

"If the Church of England, through the loss of her property, be compelled to give up her work in places where the people cannot support a ministry, there is no religious body ready or able to take up the work which the Church would reluctantly lay down. And even if the other Christian denominations could cope with the work for a time, the time would be short, until upon the principle of 'Religious Equality' their own turn would come for disendowment. For you are well aware that the disendowment of the Church of England could only be effected by that right of the State which is equally supreme over the property of all other bodies.

"Against 'Religious Equality' (rightly understood) we have not a word to say. We do not desire for our Church any advantage save that which her own inherent worth commands. We desire for her no civil precedence which the nation is not pleased to accord. But we do desire that she should enjoy that freedom which was promised her in Magna Charta, and we claim that she should be allowed to make the best possible use of the provision which she has laid up in store for the more efficient discharge of her work.

"We call upon you, therefore, to consider the seriousness of the present crisis. We urge you to hold yourselves aloof from the proposal of confiscation. To whatever political party a candidate belongs, refuse him your vote unless he promise to oppose any measure or resolution which may be brought forward in the new Parliament for the Disendowment of the English Church.

"Be firm upon this point; and then, though you may hereafter see your Church robbed of the provision which she has made, though you may see her good work in some departments crippled, yet forasmuch as you neither aided nor abetted by your vote or influence the measure of spoliation, your conscience will be clear. Always beware of the unprincipled suggestion that by joining in what you disapprove you will minimise its evil effects. You may have to suffer wrong with your Church, but you need not be accomplices in doing the wrong."

The following letter has been addressed by Dean Vaughan to the Chairman of the Committee of Mr. Arthur J. Williams, the Liberal candidate for the representation of the new Parliamentary division of South Glamorgan:—

"*Llandaff, November* 18, 1885.

"Sir,—I have received the address of Mr. Arthur J. Williams as a candidate for the representation of South Glamorgan.

"I observe that he describes himself as 'a loyal supporter of the great Liberal party.'

"Yet he places in the forefront of his manifesto a measure which is disclaimed by the recognised chief of that party as having any place in its programme—the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church of England.

"He thus avows the purpose of fostering a serious and mischievous schism in the ranks of the party of which he professes to be a member.

"If Disestablishment should ever become the policy of the party, this will be the signal for the secession of those Liberal Churchmen who have still clung to it, in spite of many regrets and disappointments, as the party of gradual improvement, and, therefore, of surest promise for the stability of the Constitution.

"In the meantime, it must suffice us to abstain from voting for any (so-called) Liberal candidate who intends to break loose, on this vital question, from the guidance of his responsible leader.

"Your obedient servant,

"C. J. VAUGHAN."

The Bishop of Norwich has issued a pastoral letter to the clergy and laity of his diocese, in which he says:—"I would earnestly entreat all electors, on behalf of our nation's character and interests, to regard their vote as a trust, which in the Providence of God, and by the voice of the nation, has been given to them, to use it as in God's sight and for the good of the nation, and to make choice of representatives whose personal character and capability for public or national affairs qualify them for legislation; men who will consider their country before their party, and who, as serving God in their private and social life, give the best pledge of wisdom and uprightness in their Parliamentary transactions. Further, I would urge them to avoid, as far as may be possible, requiring or making promises or pledges. Ascertain clearly the candidate's opinions, express clearly your own, but when you have found a good man, fit and true, trust him, and do not seek to fetter him. Doubtless, whether we regard our Church as a branch of the Universal Church of Christ, or as a great and the oldest national institution, fidelity to her trust and fulfilment of her appointed work are the essential conditions of her existence and of her power for work or defence. If in the lapse of time or through neglect abuses have crept in; if in her organisation, discipline, or ordinances there is need of adaptation or comprehension, or a redistribution of her agencies or endowments, her true defence will be to rectify what is amiss, to supply what is lacking, to give strength and efficiency to what is weak. Much of this is needed; and some of it can only be done by legislation; but there is very much which may be done without legislation, and which, if done, would greatly facilitate the doing of all the rest. Each Bishop in his diocese, each pastor in his parish, each head of a household, each one holding a place of authority or influence over others, each one in his or her own place, in their own life and work, in the use of their own talent and opportunity, may afford efficient help for Church defence and Church extension. For all this we need not wait for legislation. Grace from God, sure to be given in answer to prayer from a heart truly consecrated to Him, will effect it all. Each one who will, without waiting for others, may at once do this, and, if done, we should become, as lively stones, cemented by union with Him, and love to Him and to one another, a wall of defence which would resist all assault. But in Church defence, at this present juncture, we cannot shut our eyes to the fact that for many years a well-organised body has sought in every town and parish to enlist concurrence and support in their design to dissolve the connection of the Church with the State; and whatever may be their motives, their aim is manifest, and the means sometimes employed unscrupulous. To resist this attack, to save the nation from so great an evil as this threatened severance of the Church from the State, every Churchman (layman or clergyman), every loyal citizen, whatever his political opinions, should be up and doing: only, be our defence by word or deed, let it be our aim and prayer to remember Whose servants we are, and with what weapons and in what spirit He would have us fight; and, by our example, let us inculcate Christian courtesy and forbearance to opponents, and eschew all bitterness and party spirit. I trust, and will not doubt, that in this anxious crisis the clergy, while in their preaching they inculcate Christian principles in the use of political privileges, and in the seeking or exercise of political power, will preserve the pulpit neutral as to political parties; and in other places than the Church will seek, with the help of well-educated laymen, to give accurate information as to our Church's history, her relation to the State, her endowments, and her work in the past and at present—thus meeting error with truth, and with the truth arming themselves and their parishioners for the true defence of the Church."

A manifesto has been signed by about thirty clergymen who maintain that Liberals ought not to be influenced by the appeal which has been made to electors by Liberal Peers and others not to vote for any candidate who is in favour of Disestablishment. The manifesto, which is signed, among others, by the Rev. Stewart Headlam, the Rev. H. C. Shuttleworth, rector of St. Nicholas Cole Abbey, E.C., and the Rev. H. M. Kennedy, vicar of Plumpton, contains the following sentences:—"The leaders of the Liberal party disclaim any intention of attempting Disestablishment in the next Parliament, and it is practically certain that a dissolution must precede so great a change. It will be time enough, then, for the supporters of the Establishment to rally to its defence. Let them not confuse the important issues which are at present before the country by the introduction of what is a question for the future."

Mr. Beresford-Hope, M.P., speaking at Buntingford, near Royston, in support of Baron Dimsdale, the Conservative candidate for North Herts, dealt with the subject of Disestablishment. There was, he said, a time when he should almost as soon have expected the sky to have fallen as Mr. Gladstone to take the position he had done—a man who years ago he had highly respected for his burning zeal for placing religion and patriotism above the petty baseness of party interests. It was a humiliating spectacle to see such a man in the intoxication of politics fall so low; for if there was one thing in the world more clear than another it was that a great uprising in defence of the Church was the work of no one Party in the State. The attack on the Church had come from Mr. Chamberlain, the Liberation Society, and the Liberal Party, and the defence of the Church had also come in a great measure from the Liberal party. The consequence of the speech of Mr. Gladstone upon the Scotch people, who lived on logic and thrived on disputes, was that Mr. Gladstone had set two parties irreconcileably against him, and caused them to hate each other more than they did before. He had done this very cleverly; but they had turned on him with some such regard as people looked upon the famous character of Mr. Doubleface in Bunyan's book, and the result would be that Mr. Gladstone would come back from Scotland having made bad worse for his cause in that logical and very exacting country. People were beginning to find that the Liberals were engaged in the most unhappy enterprise that ever entered into the addled brain of man; but they were to be pitied for seeking to do infinite mischief from most misguided motives and conscience. He could pardon them in comparison with those who, with no care for God or the Church, only cared for the returns to be obtained at the polling at the election; but it was more deplorable still to see Mr. Gladstone, the austere champion of religion and the high-minded statesman, sinking to the level of those who would play with the things of Heaven and earth over the counters of the political mongerings of the day.

Speaking at Birmingham on Tuesday night in support of the candidature of Mr. Broadhurst for the Central Division, Mr. Bright referred to the statement that the Liberal party wished to divert the property of the Church and apply it to secular purposes, remarking that in the time of Henry VIII. the property of the Roman Catholic Church was transferred to the Protestant Church. What a tremendous burglary that was! He also spoke of the progress of the Episcopal Church in the United States as an instance of how the episcopal system and all the rights of the Church could be maintained without establishment. Sixteen years had elapsed since the disestablishment of the Irish Church, and recently one of the Irish Bishops publicly proclaimed the fact that that measure was a great advantage to the Church, that it was now much more free and happy and capable of service than while it was an established and political Church. In Scotland two-thirds of the population had no connection with the Established Church, and it would be the greatest possible blessing if the Established Church of that country was as free as the other Churches. In England one-half of the people were not connected with the Established Church, and at least half of those who went to places of worship went to Nonconformist churches.

Addressing a meeting at Bacup on Tuesday evening, Lord Hartington referred at length to the disestablishment of the English Church, denying that Mr. Gladstone or the Liberal leaders had raised the question, maintaining that the subject was not ripe for legislation, and that, though the Tories might gain something at this election by the course they were pursuing, they were undoubtedly injuring the Church as a religious institution, and playing into the hands of the Liberation Society. The Liberationists had every reason to thank Lord Salisbury and the Conservative leaders for trying to make Disestablishment a test question.

At a meeting held at Dundee on the 13th inst. in defence of the Church of Scotland a letter from the Duke of Argyll was read. In it his Grace said he accepted the pledges given in relation to Disestablishment by Mr. Gladstone, but those pledges were purely personal and provisional. Many of those associated with Mr. Gladstone had not given the pledges, and some had lately shown a marked disposition to treat his declarations with contempt when they did not accord with their own narrow creed. The action of the Church party was not aggressive against other branches of the Presbyterian Church; on the contrary, he was in favour of such changes as would reunite them.

A meeting of the Commission of the General Assembly of the Established Church of Scotland was held in Edinburgh on Wednesday, Professor Mitchell, of St. Andrews, Moderator, presiding. Lord Balfour of Burleigh said that the effect of the public meetings which had been held made it abundantly apparent that an overwhelming majority of the people of Scotland were opposed to the disestablishment of the Church. He begged to move the following resolution:—

That the Commission express their sense of the importance of the response made by the people of Scotland to the appeal addressed to them; but, feeling that the danger has not been removed, recommend the maintenance of organisations in a state of efficiency and watchfulness, and urge the continuance of every effort to prevent any hostile resolution being supported in Parliament.

Dr. Cunningham, Crieff, seconded the resolution. Professor Charteris maintained that it was not any question for the people of Scotland as separate from the people of England. No amount of plausible eloquence would persuade them that it was other than an imperial question to be settled by the imperial voice of the whole people. Dr. Story, of Roseneath, severely criticised the conduct of Mr. Gladstone, who

he said was "walking in a vain show." He said Mr. Gladstone spoke of Scotland as a locality, but Scotland was a kingdom and a nation. He complained that Mr. Gladstone had not said a word of sympathy with the Scottish Church; that the Scottish people would not be bamboozled or made fools of when the deepest interests of the nation were concerned. The Commission unanimously adopted the resolution and the meeting separated. A meeting of the Free Church Commission of Assembly was also held, Principal Rainy presiding. The opinion of the meeting was in favour of preserving the antagonistic attitude taken up towards the Established Church.

VANDALISM AT ETON.

If there is one place in England more than another where hasty and ill-considered demolition and reconstruction should be shunned, surely it is Eton. No school in the world has such traditions, such associations. Very few scholastic buildings are in themselves so beautiful or so full of interest for succeeding generations. To be sure, in time to come, when the Church has been disestablished and disendowed, when many another time-honoured institution has been kicked over by King Demos, there should be no expectation that Eton, the very home, as will be said, of aristocratic exclusiveness, will be spared. But at present King Demos has nothing to say in the matter. It is Eton's own rulers and custodians who now, in the name of needful improvent, contemplate changes that take no thought of her past.

Every Etonian is familiar with the block of buildings that stands between Weston's-yard and the Slough-road. The Headmaster's house, at the southern end, is not only a charming and well-preserved specimen of Elizabethan domestic architecture, but it has the further interest that in it Sir Henry Savile, tutor of Queen Elizabeth and some time Provost of Eton, set up the printing-press which is so justly famed for the beautiful "Eton" edition of St. Chrysostom. The adjoining buildings have no such associations; but they are singularly picturesque, and any reconstruction on this site would destroy one of the most characteristic features of the place. The site, moreover, is for the most part inconveniently narrow. We find it hard to believe that, if a larger house is really wanted for the Headmaster, some other site could not be found without the destruction of much that can never be replaced.

Moreover, the authorities contemplate turning the Upper School into the school library, while a more commodious building is to be erected elsewhere for speeches and other like occasions. The reasons given for this measure are confused and inadequate. In the first place the present school library, which it is proposed to pull down, admirably fulfils its purpose, and is particularly associated with the name of one of the worthiest of Eton's recent rulers and benefactors, Provost Hawtrey. If more room is wanted, an annexe might easily be built to hold the many antiquated editions of the classics, and other books of as little use, which encumber the shelves. The plea that if the library were in the Upper School it would be more used by Oppidans, as being nearer (by some eighty yards) to the centre of school life, can hardly be urged seriously. There remains the more reasonable contention that for various school purposes a room is wanted where the whole school can assemble at once, and which will hold a larger number of guests at the speeches on the Fourth of June. But even if a case were made out for the erection of such a speechroom, it surely does not follow that the Upper School should henceforth be the school library—to which purpose it can only be adapted by entirely altering its character and concealing the many famous names carved upon its walls—or that the present library should be pulled down. The improvements certainly needed in College can be carried out without touching the library at all.

And what Etonians, both at Eton and elsewhere, greatly complain of is, not merely that such changes should be contemplated, but that their execution should be hurried forward without consultation with those on the spot who are immediately interested in the result. A few months ago a design for new classrooms, utterly out of keeping with their surroundings and fatal to the appearance of the clock-tower and chapel in the schoolyard, was only withdrawn by a happy accident; although the men living and working in the school unanimously condemned it, on grounds alike of beauty and convenience. To an urgent appeal from the same quarter on behalf of the condemned library, the Provost merely replies that it is too late; everything is settled. It is not in this spirit that changes in a great school whose welfare is a matter of national interest should be set on foot. Wise reform, well-devised schemes of improvement, whether in building or in teaching, no friend of Eton will ever hesitate to welcome. But the Governors of Eton should never forget their responsibility for the heritage they are called upon to administer. To take irretrievable steps, before their necessity has been shown or their direction and consequences fully considered, is to play the part rather of a reckless proprietor than a trustee. But it is still not too late to retrieve the present blunder. The condemned buildings are as yet untouched. Let operations be suspended till the whole question has been reconsidered, in concert with the resident staff; and we are satisfied that means will be found to provide for all the wants of the school without injury to the noble traditions and associations of Eton.—*St. James's Gazette.*

WINTER WRAPS.

Notwithstanding the recent outcry raised against fur on hygienic grounds, never has it promised to be more generally worn than this winter, the newest garments in preparation, both in French and English *ateliers*, having more or less fur in their composition. Dresses are trimmed with it, bonnets and hats are either bordered or made entirely of it; and the same may be said for mantles, mantelettes, dolmans, dolmanettes, visites, capes, long and short coats, indeed the whole genus of winter wraps, call them by what name you please.

The fashion of wearing fur is decidedly becoming to all women, and the close proximity of soft dark fur to rosy young cheeks and delicate, shell-like complexions is so universally acknowledged to be pleasing, that we much question any of the sex refusing to wear fur on account of the scruples of the few respecting its healthiness, even if the question were not, as it now is, an open one, and it had been really decided that the habit was positively injurious. With one fashion recently reintroduced, however, we are greatly at variance—that is, with the boa. Our grandmothers wore boas, and there were stronger women in those days than there are now, but they only placed them round the neck once. Now these wraps are made some four yards long, and the dictates of fashion decree that the throat must be enveloped in serpentlike coils of fur until the face is literally enframed in it. Becoming as we grant this fashion to be, it is a fatal mistake to make on the score of cold-catching, as such a wrapping-up is sure to result in additional delicacy, and lead to relaxed and sore throats, if not to chronic neuralgia, from the sudden change of temperature when the boa is taken off. An endeavour has been made to bring in white and very light furs; as yet, however, it does not seem to have met with much favour. Formerly ermine and sable were almost the only kinds of fur worn. Who does not remember the huge muffs, the large deep tippets and capes of the earlier part of this nineteenth century? Some are even now preserved in their old original shapes, and the revival of the boa will be quite a godsend to elderly ladies who have not been coaxed into cutting up such treasures into cuff-and borderings for modern jackets. Well-preserved old sable is almost as precious a possession as old lace, and there is the same sort of *cachet* carried with it. Unlike other furs, it always retains the first place in the estimation not only of fashion leaders, but of furriers also. We should doubt the general reintroduction of ermine, or any white fur, unless for linings or opera-cloaks, all purely white furs being, unlike dark furs, very trying to the complexion, unless in the case of children, whose fresh young faces and brilliant natural colouring can withstand the contact of dead-white next their skin. A fair child dressed from top to toe in white bear is a little dream of beauty; but when the days of extreme youth are over, no woman who cares for her appearance should invest in a set of white fur.

Sable, lynx, seal, mink, marten, skunk, racoon, opossum, bear, wolverene, black, blue, and silver fox, squirrel, musquash, beaver, otter, astrachan, Persian lamb, and chinchilla are all in favour; natural and undyed furs being even more used this winter than last. In its natural grey tint, astrachan is far prettier than when dyed black, less common, though of course not so serviceable; it blends beautifully with the lighter of the newest tones of grey in rough cloth, plush, velvet, and corduroy. Both in its dyed and natural state this fur is undoubtedly the most fashionable this year. For the loose-fronted coats now seen everywhere it is especially suitable, but should be made up simply, as far as regards buttons and braid; to over-braid astrachan is a great mistake, though a very common one in these days, particularly with tight-fitting coats. The idea is, of course, the patrol jacket; but that has been quite overdone of late, and we hardly expect to see the straight-fronted, big-buttoned jackets last much longer. They have already become vulgarised, as they are now made in cheap common materials, and the buttons are running to the size of small plates.

The shapes of winter wraps are, and will be, very varied, and the stock of names to bestow on the new claimants to public favour stands in danger of being exhausted. Taking the smaller articles first, capes are no longer cut with high shoulder-pieces. There are several deep plain shapes fitting perfectly to the neck, shoulders, and back, and finished off with fur tails. Mantelettes, dolmanettes, and visites are more fashionable, however, than the ordinary cape. Of these, the Canadienne is a novelty; it is made in any kind of furs, is fitted to the waist at the back, and closely edged with tails or balls of fur. The Beatrice is another useful form of wrap of a stylish appearance; it consists of a warm deep collar of fur and a wide plastron, in which is contained a small muff, the ends of the plastron falling down in front some way below the waist. The Cybele visite is very suitable for a tall, good figure; it is made chiefly in seal and trimmed with black marten (a very usual combination just now). This shape also has long ends in front, which are finished off with ornaments, or tails of fur. A combination, in seal plush and fur, of muff and dolmanette is pretty; or it can be made in one of the new *bouclé*, or Kyrle, cloths, and trimmed with rosary bead fringe; the ends of this cross in front and so form the muff. The great fault of capes and sleeveless mantelettes is that they do not protect the arms—that is, the forearm; therefore, mantles with either sling or regular sleeves, or jackets and coats, are preferable. A combination highly recommended for driving, called the jacket-cape, is a new introduction, hardly, to our idea, a graceful one, the set of the sleeves being somewhat awkward-looking, especially from behind; it is cut like a jacket in front and like a cape behind; a sort of nondescript garment, which, however, has one good feature—it allows as complete freedom to the arms as a jacket would do. A very dressy looking seal visite is bordered with Russian tails somewhat lighter in shade than the seal; the back is well-fitted in to the figure and brought round into two prettily cut points, which hang considerably below the waist in front. This is known as the Battenberg shape. Another equally stylish is the Mecklenburg, which is also made in seal; it, too, has knots in front, but much longer—what are known as "stole ends." These are finished off, and the visite is bordered with a new kind of fringe, formed with loops and balls of seal.

The Latona and the Minerva are good examples of long mantles. Both are made of sealskin; the former, trimmed with natural otter, has a deep Russian collar, crossed over, and fastened on the left side of the waist; the latter is bordered with black marten, and has loose hanging sleeves, ornamented with the new mohair *passementerie*. The newest shapes in long mantles are cut with full pleats turned inwards at the back, which allows ample room for the back draperies of the skirt beneath. When not entirely composed of fur, but merely fur-bordered, the very richest materials are used for cloaks and mantles, such as plush, striped or plain, brocades, velvets, and heavy silks. A handsome mantle, with sling sleeves, is in shot-plush trimmed with skunk and shaded brown beads. Another remarkably stylish design in long mantles, emanating from a well-known English firm, is the "Moscow." This reaches to the feet, not even a dress frill being visible beneath it; the materials of which it is composed are mahogany-coloured plush, with wide trimmings of silver fox; it fits tightly at the back, and the skirt is drawn in just below the waist behind into full large pleats, the front is loose, the fur bordering round the neck being crossed below it from left to right, from shoulder to hip, and then continued straight down the skirt to its edge; the sleeves are of a novel shape, fitted to the upper arm, but falling loose from the elbow, the wide cuffs being of fur. This is one of the most effective winter wraps we have yet seen; it can, of course, be made in a less heavy material than plush, and trimmed with dark instead of light fur.

Favourite combinations are blue cloth and light beaver, gunpowder grey and light otter, biscuit-coloured cheviot and natural lynx, dark red, grey, and blue cloths with black astrachan, light grey velvet, corduroy and rough cloths with natural astrachan, Persian lamb and seal, black astrachan and dark-dyed, almost black, seal-sapphire plush lined with ermine for evening wraps, undyed seal and blue satin, cream brocade and sable borderings, deep red and Persian lamb, salmon-coloured plush trimmed with two fur boas, one round the neck and down the front, the other brought round the basque and allowed to fall each side beneath the wide full sleeves, which are edged with fur to match. This makes a most original-looking mantle, or rather opera cloak, the fur having a red-brown tinge in it which harmonises beautifully with the plush.—*Standard.*

WEAR AND TEAR.

The attention of ladies is specially solicited by the official report just published by Dr. Ogle on modern social and sanitary improvements as a means of lengthening life. It shows that among the privileges that are to be woman's when she obtains her full rights will be that of dying sooner. Though Dr Ogle has found it hard to reduce the softer sex to statistics, his report points from page to page to this conclusion: if women want to live long they had better remain as they are. At present their mean average of lifetime is 44·62 years, as compared with our 41·35 years; and all because they do not know the "feverish excitement and reckless expenditure of energy" that wears and tears man to pieces.

Woman has the better of it all through; for even where sanitation does not seem to have added a day to the life of man, it gives her another year. For the twenty-two years ending with 1854, the average age to which males born in that period were to live was 39·91; and females 41·85; so that while the improved conditions under which we now live have only put man on an equality with the woman of forty years ago, they have given her another three years. She is further ahead than ever. Even this, however, does not sufficiently emphasise her point of vantage. It is only in the days of his youth that man's "mean after-lifetime" is greater than it was in the first half of the century. When he passes his twenty-seventh birthday his chances of a long life are less than were those of his father at the same age. Woman, on the other hand, lives to forty-five before civilisation begins to affect her life in the wrong way.

It is the weaklings who reduce our average—the men and women who in pre-sanitation times would have died in the cradle or soon after they left it, but who now, thanks to a more stringent enforcement of the laws of health and the greater skill of the medicine-men, struggle into manhood and womanhood. In the case of men, they die off after they are twenty-seven; while the delicate women do not raise the rate of mortality before they have reached middle age. Two things seem worth noting here. In the first place, the men and women whose chance of "growing up" would fifty years ago have been but slight are now nurtured to a marriageable age. The physique of our children and our children's children will thus become lower and lower with the ages, unless continued improvement in the conditions of social life more than makes amends. We are acting in an exactly contrary way to the Spartans, who, wanting hardy citizens only, practically put their weakly off-spring to death. In every million boys born now, 34,000 more pass their twenty-seventh year than did so pass in the middle of the century; the corresponding increase for girls being 43,000. The second suggestive fact is, that the delicacy of the female should be so much longer in telling upon her than on the male. It can only be accounted for by her being spared the "wear and tear" that kills off so many robust men, according to Dr. Ogle, before their time. In thousands of cases the weakly woman has to fight in the battle for food and lodging until she is overcome; but where she has relatives in moderately comfortable circumstances an effort is made to make her life easy. Man, however, though physical health be denied him, has in most cases to struggle for himself; and the "feverish excitement and restless expenditure of energy" tell upon the weaklings, of course, even more than on their stronger brethren.

Fewer men, proportionally, pass the age of sixty-seven than formerly, while women are in the nineties before that can be said of them. Taking man's life as a whole, however, more can now be got from it than in past times; for the extra 35,000 lives per million are gained during the working period of man's existence. Work is money; and these extra lives gained to the country—women's and men's together—mean another 2,000,000 years of life annually, or, to put it another way, £100,000,000. This latter calculation is reached by reckoning the annual productive value of the average extra life at £50. And oh! what a satisfaction it is!

There is no more fascinating subject for the statistician than the difference in the rates of mortality in the various trades and professions. This is much more considerable than might be expected. Dr. Ogle has sifted the evidence on the subject without finding that preceding statisticians have gone far astray in their figures. His own inquiry, nevertheless, is probably the most trustworthy of the kind that has been made in this country since men of science turned their attention to such matters. Of the professions one in particular appears conducive to long life. The doctor, the lawyer, the literary man die off; the parson is left behind to read the burial service over them. According to our statistics there are in England and Wales 1,000 deaths in every 64,461 males between the ages of twenty-five and sixty-five. When we are not speaking of the people generally, however, but of the clergy only, we must say 556 instead of 1,000—which is not much more than half; while the corresponding figures in the legal and medical professions are 842 and 1,122 respectively. In the forty years, then, in which man does most of his best work we have to look for twice as many deaths among doctors as among the clergy. The old explanation is again the probable one. The minister's life, however zealous a worker he may be, is cast in comparatively quiet places; it is of most benefit to its generation when still a stranger to "feverish excitement and reckless expenditure of energy." In a medical man's life—especially if he be a struggling country practitioner, or an unfashionable physician in the towns—there is far more "wear and tear." The doctor has to sleep when and where he can. One exhausting day with him is often followed by another, and besides he has seldom less than one anxious case in his hands. The lawyer occupies a position midway between the Church and medicine, as was to be anticipated. Schoolmasters, too, are long-lived; in the professions they follow the clergy, though at a distance.

Even the new elector, the agricultural labourer, does not live so long as his parson, though perhaps he ought to. His figures are 644; while those for innkeepers are 1,521, and for workers in tin-mines 1,839. The tin-miner cannot help himself, for work in the mine he must if he stick to his trade, and in the mines he is choked with stone-dust: a very deadly dust. Nevertheless, greater attention to the laws of health would no doubt make the death-rate among workers of this kind less startingly high. With the innkeeper, the "bagman," and others, whose high rate of mortality is due to over-indulgence in food and drink, one need have less sympathy. Of late years, however, it is pleasant to note that the bargains between traders are less frequently "wetted" than was the case of yore; and by the time Dr. Ogle makes his next report he may have a lower death-rate to show for commercial travellers. When the dealer was in favour of a friendly glass they dared not risk offending him by refusal, and the consequence was a ruinous consumption of liquor day after day. The rate of mortality among men with "no visible means of subsistence" is the highest of all; but that is only because Dr. Ogle includes in the class of "unoccupied males" the delicate persons who are unfit for work. It is to be fear that the "idler," popularly so-called, lives to a good old age.—*St. James's Gazette.*

Mr. J. Henry Middleton, of Cheltenham, has sent the following to the *Academy*:—

"The Saxon building which has just been discovered at Deerhurst, near Tewkesbury, is not a house, as has been reported, but a very complete little chapel, with nave 25ft. 6in. by 16ft., and chancel 14ft. by 11ft. The chancel arch is a fine example of the Saxon style, with plain semi-circular arch and well-moulded impost. Part of the north door still exists, and one very perfect round-headed window, with double splay and part of its original oak casement built into its head; its sill is 10ft. 6in. above the ground. The plain walling of the chapel much resembles Roman work, being built of long thin pieces of blue lias, with mortar joints from one to two inches thick. This was all covered with stucco inside and out, the quoins and other dressed stones being set with a projection of about half an inch to receive the plastering. In the sixteenth century a fine half-timbered house was built so as to enclose and conceal the Saxon chapel; and it was only the removal of some of this later work last month that brought to view the Saxon masonry, the presence of which had not been suspected. Perhaps the chief feature of interest about this place is the existence of an inscribed slab, which, with the missing part supplied, would probably read thus:—

[IN] · HONO	'In honorem Sancti
[RE · S · P]ETRI	Petri Apostoli hoc
[APLI ·] HOC	
[ALTA] RE · DE	Altare dedicatum
DICATV · E	est.'

This chapel, with an adjoining house, is known to have been granted to the Abbey of Westminster by Edward the Confessor; and, in fact, it continued in their possession till quite recent years, when it was taken over by the Ecclesiastical Commissioners, together with the rest of the Abbey estates. The form of the letters on this slab resembles those of another inscription relating to the building of the priory church at Deerhurst, which is now among the Arundel Marbles at Oxford. This latter inscription is dated 1056, which is probably about the same date as the one relating to the altar of this chapel. An early canon required an inscription to be set near every altar recording to what saint it was consecrated; but in later times this rule fell into disuse, and the slab appears to have been used for the head of an Early English window, the arch of which was cut out of it, thus causing the destruction of the first part of some of the lines. The completion of the missing part of the inscription is due to Mr. J. T. Micklethwaite."

An attempt has been recently made by Herr Liznar, of the Austrian Meteorological Society, to determine the daily course of cloudiness over different parts of the earth's surface. In most places there are two maxima and two minima in the day. He distinguishes four types—namely—(1) A maximum about midday, a minimum in the evening: this occurs, *e.g.*, at Madrid (the maximum in summer becomes as late as 4 p.m.). (2) A maximum in the morning, and a minimum at midday; this is found at Los Angeles, on the plateau of the Rocky Mountains. (3) Two maxima and two minima, the chief maximum in the morning and the chief minimum in the evening; this type being met with in Vienna in winter and autumn, and in Bombay. (4) Two maxima and minima, but the chief maximum about midday and the chief minimum in the evening: this is the case at Vienna in summer and spring. The greatest amplitude of cloudiness appears at the stations on the Rocky Mountains plateaux; the sky being sometimes quite covered with clouds in the morning, and quite clear a few hours later. It is curious that the Sherman station has a cloudiness exactly opposite in its course to that of Los Angeles.

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REPORT OF THE DIRECTORS

OF THE

GRESHAM LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY

TO THE ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS,

HELD ON NOVEMBER 17, 1885.

CHIEF OFFICE—ST. MILDRED'S HOUSE, LONDON.

THE DIRECTORS have now to present their Report on the operations of the thirty-seventh financial year of the Society ending June 30, 1885, and on the Triennial Valuation of its affairs.

During the year 7,394 proposals were made to the Society for assuring the sum of £2,655,728, and 6,138 policies were issued, assuring an amount of £2,136,899. The immediate annuities granted during the year were for the yearly payment of £8,606 19s. 9d.

The income from premiums, after deducting the amount paid for reassurance, was £567,414 13s. 2d., including £78,098 0s. 4d., in premiums for the first year of assurance.

The balance of the interest account amounted to £149,628 1s. 10d., which, together with the premiums, raised the income of the Society to £717,042 15s. for the year. The interest which had become payable, but which had not been received at the date of closing the accounts, is included in the item of "Outstanding Interest and Rent" among the assets.

The claims made upon the Society and admitted under Life Assurance policies were for an amount of £265,581 2s. 3d., whilst the claims under policies for Endowments that had matured amounted to £116,769 12s. 7d. The sum of £46,317 1s. 9d. was paid for the surrender of policies.

After providing for these amounts, for the annuities falling due within the year, for office expenses, and other charges on the income of the year, there remained a balance of £157,798 17s., which augments the fund available for the existing policies of the Society. This fund amounted at the end of the financial year to £3,571,300 0s. 9d., which, with the amount of £71,281 14s. 1d. reserved for the settlement of claims outstanding, for the payment of annuities not applied for, and for other purposes specified in the Balance Sheet, makes up the total of Assets to £3,642,581 14s. 10d., as shown in the Second Schedule appended to this Report.

The accounts have been duly audited by Mr. William W. Venn (Notary Public), a Policyholder, on behalf of the Policyholders, and by Mr. John G. Ladbury (Chartered Accountant), a Shareholder of the Society, on the part of the Shareholders. The whole of the securities and documents representing the Assets of the Society have been verified, both by the Directors and by the Auditors.

The Directors having reported on the general operations of the Society for the financial year, now turn to the subject of the Triennial Valuation of the Assurance and Annuity Contracts in force on June 30, 1885.

The results of the Valuation are fully stated in the Report of the Actuary, Mr. Thos. G. Ackland, F.I.A., of which the Directors communicate the following extracts:—

"BASES OF THE VALUATION.—(1) MORTALITY.—The valuations of the Society's policies have hitherto been based upon the Mortality Tables known as the 'Experience of the Seventeen British Companies,' but these tables, which represent the experience of Assured Lives prior to 1838, have been entirely superseded by the tables published more recently by the Institute of Actuaries, which include the experience of Assured Lives up to 1863, and are generally acknowledged to be the best existing exponent of the mortality among Assured Lives. I have therefore adopted in the present valuation 'The Institute of Actuaries (HM) Experience Table.' The valuation is thus conducted upon the most modern and extensive data available, while the reserves brought out by the tables adopted are proportionately somewhat higher than those brought out by the tables hitherto adopted.

"The Pure Endowments, which are mostly upon the lives of young children, have necessarily been valued by a different table, as the 'HM' Table does not contain data under the age of ten years. I have adopted the 'Carlisle' Table for the valuation of the Pure Endowments.

"The Immediate Annuities effected prior to December 31, 1883, have been valued by the Table of Mortality adopted at former valuations—viz., the 'Seventeen Offices Experience.' At the above date the published rates at which the Society granted Annuities were reconstructed, and based upon the experience of Government Annuitants (1860, Male and Female). I have therefore employed this table, which brings out a much larger reserve, for the valuation of annuities effected since December 31, 1883.

"(2) INTEREST.—The rate of interest assumed throughout in the valuation of the Assurance contracts is 3½ per cent., this being a rate which may fairly be reckoned upon in the future upon securities of the first class. Any higher rate realised upon investment would of course be an element of profit.

"The immediate Annuities have been valued at the rate of 4 per cent., which is well within the average rate yielded by the funds of the Society.

"The rates of interest actually realised during the past triennium on the total funds of the Society (invested and uninvested) have been as follows:—

	Per Cent.
1882-3	£4 4 9
1883-4	4 2 8
1884-5	4 5 9

Showing an average rate, over the whole period since the last valuation of £4 4s. 5d. per cent.

"CASES IN FORCE.—It will be observed that the Society had on its registers on June 30, 1885, the date of the valuation, 41,927 policies, assuring, together with bonus additions, the total sum of £15,831,253 2s., and giving rise to an annual premium income, reduced by application of bonus, of £574,962 2s., exclusive of £4,014 1s. 3d. extra premium for temporary risks, and for lives accepted at an increase on the tabular rates.

"The sums reassured amounted to £69,298, subject to the yearly payment by the Society of £2,236 3s. 6d. as reassurance premiums.

"It will be further observed that at the date of the valuation there were in force 2,180 contracts for Annuities, amounting to £96,051 12s., of which the yearly sum of £93,652 18s. is now payable by the Society, and the remainder at deferred periods, subject to the payment in the meanwhile to the Society of premiums amounting to £606 3s. 3d. per annum.

"There were also 280 contracts for Deferred Annuities in Italian Rentes, involving a future payment by the Society equivalent, with bonus additions, to £4,230 16s. per annum, subject to the payment in the meantime to the Society of a sum of £2,440 6s. per annum.

"RESULTS OF THE VALUATION.—The liability under the policies in force at the date of the valuation is shown in the statements appended to this report.

"The difference between the present value of the sums assured and of the net premiums constitutes the amount required for the Assurance Fund or Reserve, which, at the date of the valuation was determined by mathematical calculation at £2,635,012 6s., and is entered in the Balance Sheet at that figure, under the head 'Assurance Fund.'

"The present value of the Annuity contracts was, at the date of the valuation, £804,093 4s., whilst the present value of the net premium income to be received by the Society in respect of the Annuities for deferred periods was £3,996 8s. The difference in amount between these values, £800,096 16s., determines the sum required to be set apart to meet the payment of the Annuities as they fall due, and this amount is entered in the Balance Sheet under that figure.

"The Deferred Annuities in Italian Rentes have been valued as a distinct class. The nominal capital of 'Rentes' required for this class of policies is £17,359, the present value of which is £16,925 16s., and is entered for so much in the Balance Sheet.

"The General Fund which appears upon the books of account as available for Assurance Fund, Annuity Fund, and Italian Rentes Annuity Fund, amounts to £3,452,034 18s., constituted as follows:—

	£	s.	d.
Assurance Fund	2,635,012	6	0
Annuity Fund	800,096	16	0
Italian Rentes Annuity Fund	16,925	16	0
Total	£3,452,034	18	0

"Upon reference to the Balance Sheet it will be observed that the available Assets of the Society, after making allowance for the Share Capital and outstanding liabilities, amounted on June 30 last to £3,549,588 0s. 9d. The total liability under the Assurance and Annuity Contracts of the Society at the same date was, as above shown, £3,452,034 18s. The difference between these amounts, £97,553 2s. 9d., represents the Surplus Fund, which is available for distribution amongst the Policyholders and Shareholders of the Society."

Acting upon the above report, the Directors declare as divisible surplus the sum of £96,000, which they recommend for division among the Policy-holders and Shareholders.

Eighty per cent. of the amount declared as surplus divisible will, on June 30 next, be apportioned, as usual, to holders of participating policies in force at the date of the Balance-sheet, and will be applied in augmentation of the sums assured. The usual options will be allowed to the Policyholders in selecting the mode in which their bonus may be applied, but subject in all respects to the conditions of their contracts, and to the regulations of the Society as stated in the notices to be issued when the requisite calculations in detail shall have been completed by the Actuary.

The Directors retiring on the present occasion are Messrs. H. C. T. Beadnell, William Thornthwaite, and George Tyler, who, being eligible and willing to serve again, are recommended by the Board to constitute the list for re-election.

Mr. Venn and Mr. Ladbury retire as auditors, but, being eligible, they again offer themselves for election, the former on behalf of the Policyholders, and the latter on behalf of the Shareholders.

By order of the Board,

JOSEPH ALLEN, Secretary.

November 17, 1885.

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JOHN WHITTINGTON, Secretary.

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By order of the Board.
CHARLES BELTON, Secretary.
Nov. 20, 1885.

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, NOVEMBER 21.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The Parliament elected in 1880 has at length ceased to exist. It passes away with a pitiable record of vast mischief accomplished and of great opportunities for good neglected. Not even the Radicals who five years ago hailed the return of the best House of Commons of the century with exultation find any words of regret for its demise. It was long since condemned by the common-sense of the nation, and in retaliation it has brought about a revolution of the electoral system that renders it more than doubtful whether in future common-sense in England, intelligence in Wales, tolerance in Scotland, and loyalty in Ireland will secure adequate representation. In another three weeks the results will be known of the degradation of representative government that gives to numbers, that is to say to ignorance, the preponderance which under any sensible system should be secured to the intelligence of the community. There is, happily, every reason to hope that the Tory party will even under the new conditions hold its own. Day after day, and week after week, its ranks are being recruited by the masses of Englishmen who have been drawn from their old allegiance to Liberalism by the appeals on behalf of Liberal unity preferred by Mr. GLADSTONE, and the claims for Radical supremacy that are put forth by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN. Whatever the issue of the General Election may be, there is no question as to the side on which is ranged the patriotism, the intelligence, and the honesty of the English people.

The reports that come in from all sides as to the prospects of the General Election are of excellent omen for the success of the Tory party at the polls. The issues that in his dreary Manifesto Mr. GLADSTONE attempted to raise have evoked no answering enthusiasm. No one cares anything about reform of Parliamentary procedure, reform of the land laws, local self-government, and so forth. The burning questions of the day have forced themselves to the front, and the question of Ireland and the question of the Church are the subjects of the future with which the electorate alone concerns itself. Mr. GLADSTONE has tardily recognised this fact, and has in his Midlothian speeches endeavoured to avert the danger to the Liberal cause that the questions of Ireland and the Church threaten. The attempt has been futile, however, and even disastrous. If the unity of the Kingdom is to be preserved it would be madness to give a fresh lease of power to the politicians who have brought Ireland within measurable distance of secession from the United Kingdom. If the Church is to be upheld it would be pure lunacy to support a party of which nearly 500 candidates before the constituencies are pledged to Disestablishment and Disendowment. Stripped of their ambiguities and translated into the plain language of plain people, Mr. GLADSTONE'S statements of his political opinions indicate that he is prepared to grant Home Rule to Ireland, and overthrow the Church in Great Britain as soon as ever it suits the interests of himself and his party. The English people have had some experience of the sense to be attached to Mr. GLADSTONE'S deliberate vagueness, and it is no longer to be deluded. The future that Mr. GLADSTONE offers is one that ordinary Englishmen shrink from with loathing. And however little Mr. GLADSTONE chooses to say on the subject, they have a keen remembrance of the past. Majuba Hill, Kilmainham, and Khartoum will not be forgotten at the polls.

The declaration of war by Servia against Bulgaria, and the immediate commencement of hostilities, are somewhat amazing events. It is certain that Servia has not moved without the connivance, the consent, and the assistance of Austria, and it was precisely because the outbreak of hostilities appeared directly antagonistic to the best interests of Austria that hopes were confidently indulged in that the peace of Europe would not be disturbed. It is utterly useless to endeavour to disentangle the intrigues, the schemes, and the ambitions that are at present in play in the Balkan Peninsula. The game has to be played out between Austria and Russia, and the moves of the pawns on the board are of interest only as they bear upon the final conflict. The Conference at Constantinople is still sitting, apparently in profound indifference to the bloody interlude in which Servians and Bulgarians are engaged. It still appears to be held that a satisfactory issue to the present *imbroglio* without war between the great Powers is possible. The German Speech from the Throne breathes a confidence on this point that ordinary observers can scarcely feel any longer. So far, the results of the military operations have been distinctly unfavourable to the Servians. The Servian main force has been decisively repulsed, and the Bulgarians have gained the time to concentrate their forces for resisting the Servian advance. Prince ALEXANDER has shown the energy and the skill in warfare of which he has already given proofs in civil life. His appeal to the SULTAN and submission to the Turkish suzerainty give the Sublime Porte an opportunity of which it is perhaps too much to hope that it will avail itself. For Turkey to attack Servia forthwith for its invasion of Turkish territory, and to aid Bulgaria to free itself from its position of subservience to Russia, would go far to settle the existing complications and to strengthen the position of the Turkish Empire.

There is every reason to anticipate that the Burmese War will be little more than a military promenade for the British troops. The first operations of the campaign have been attended with absolute success. The forts that command the ascent of the Irrawaddy have been stormed and taken, and the road to Mandalay, the capital, is now, it may be assumed, clear. The capture of Mandalay is likely to be preceded by the flight of THEEBAW. Any prolonged opposition to the British occupation of the country is improbable, and it will then only remain to provide for its future government. It is to be hoped that there will be no recourse to half measures. The absolute annexation of the country is recommended by every consideration of statesmanship and expediency. The position with regard to both China and France, the two countries that the British occupation of Burmah will chiefly concern, would be greatly simplified by absolute annexation. The French Government at present acquiesces in British policy, and has withdrawn the consul, M. HAAS, whose energetic advocacy of French interests and bold promotion of French influence are well known. But French activity is certain to revive if fitting opportunity occurs. The Chinese Empire is notoriously at the present time friendly to the extension of the British sovereignty. Everything concurs just now to render the policy of annexation easy of accomplishment. It is to be hoped that the present Ministry will not display any of the timorous shrinking from responsibilities that was responsible for so many of the disasters that overwhelmed the late Administration.

THE APPEAL TO THE COUNTRY.

Next week the British people will pronounce its judgment upon the facts that have been laid before it during the last few weeks. Never within recent times has a more momentous issue been placed before the nation for its decision. For years—probably for generations—to come the verdict given within the next few days by the electorate will affect the vital interests of the country. At many General Elections the nation has only been called upon to pronounce upon some one important legislative measure or some one point of policy. To-day the decision has to be taken on an issue of far greater moment. The question that has to be answered is whether the future of the British people is to witness an entirely new departure—whether, in fact, it will or will not accept the principles of the Socialist Revolution. Certainly a graver alternative has seldom been presented for the choice of any nation. We stand to-day at the parting of the two roads—the path of Progress and the path of Revolution; and the choice now made will be irrevocable. What will be the answer of the country to the appeal now made to it, it would be useless to speculate: all the more, because in a very few days the answer itself will be known. It is, perhaps, unnecessary to observe that the estimates published by some of our contemporaries as to the results of the coming Elections are the purest guesswork imaginable. It is not too much to say that those who are best informed as to the state of parties in the country are least inclined to pronounce any judgment upon the matter. The game of brag is a very old and time-honoured one with our Radical friends; but the amount of reliance to be placed on their boastful estimates may be measured by the fact that two of these sapient prophets, writing in the same journal, assess the coming Radical majority at about eighty and thirty respectively. The only thing certain about the issue of the Elections is that nobody really knows anything about it. It is to be anticipated that the boroughs will show a very great Conservative reaction; and it is equally probable that in the counties the wholesale bribery of the labourers by Radical promises will have its due effect. But beyond these general anticipations it is quite impossible to make any definite forecast in the matter.

In spite of the frantic endeavours of the Radical leaders to withdraw the Church question from the arena of the struggle, it remains the principal point at issue. To assure Churchmen that they have no reason to fear Disestablishment and Disendowment simply because Mr. GLADSTONE chooses to say that the question will not, so far as he is concerned, be brought forward in the next Parliament, is to ask them to lean upon a broken reed. Mr. GLADSTONE is, after all, not the sole arbiter of Liberal policy; and, even if he were, Churchmen know better than to trust his assurances that no danger need be apprehended for the present. There is not the least reason to doubt

that, with a vast majority of the Radical party pledged to an anti-Church policy, the party wire-pullers will not hesitate, if it should suit their purpose, to push the Church question to the front. At any rate, it would ill become Churchmen, after the warning they have received, to neglect to avail themselves of every means of defending themselves against all possible contingencies of attack. The question which the nation has to decide with respect to the Church is—Will it or will it not consent to the perpetration of a great and irreparable wrong? And that issue is not to be got rid of by a plea that the question need not now be raised—that it will be time enough to decide it when it is fairly brought before the country. As a matter of fact, whether Mr. GLADSTONE likes it or not, the question is before the country at the present moment, and it is the chiefest of all the issues now presented for the national decision.

For the rest, the British people has to perform what surely ought to be an easy task. Is the nation prepared to restore Mr. GLADSTONE and his colleagues to office? Only a very few months ago the Radical Government literally fell to pieces. Has anything happened in the interval to justify their restoration to power? As to home affairs, for example, what possible reason can be alleged for desiring their return to office? All really necessary reforms are part of the programme of Lord SALISBURY'S Government. Is it not at least just—would it not be at least decent—that the present Ministry should have a fair chance of dealing with the questions of administrative reform, of local government, of simplification of land transfer, of naval efficiency, and the like—with all of which the Radicals have had ample opportunity of dealing during their five years' tenure of office? Then, as regards Ireland, the policy of the late Government was surely not such a brilliant success that the Conservatives are to be denied the opportunity of trying what the effects of their policy and administration will be. But this is true, above all, as regards Foreign Affairs. We wonder if the people at large have thoroughly grasped the fact—for a fact it undoubtedly is—that if the Liberal Government had continued much longer (perhaps a few weeks longer) in office, England would certainly have found herself face to face with a hostile coalition of Europe. We refuse to believe that the country can deliberately desire a return to the foreign policy of the late Administration—a policy of wicked and wanton bloodshed and disgrace, of reckless expenditure and still more reckless waste of life—a policy which only the opportune advent of a Tory Government to power prevented from being consummated in irretrievable disaster to the Empire.

WITH HARE AND HOUNDS.

If anyone could successfully accomplish the feat of running with the hare and hunting with the hounds at the same moment it would be the Liberal leader. At present he is busily engaged in exercising that "moderating influence" on the counsels of his party which he declared to those of his followers who are friends of the Church of England was a sufficient reason for their remaining in the ranks of her enemies. The moderating influence takes the form of crying "Not yet, not yet;" and all the time not one word is allowed to fall from the lips of the Liberal leader which can discourage the pack who are at last in full cry after the hunted hare. The spectacle of a great statesman adopting this time-serving policy is a melancholy one indeed. Who could have believed forty years ago that the time would come when it might be hinted that the author of *Church and State* was putting his religious principles in his pocket? We do not say that he is doing so now. We are willing to believe that if it could be clearly brought home to Mr. GLADSTONE that it is his imperative duty as a statesman and as a member of the Church of England to declare his personal convictions as to the questions of Disendowment and Disestablishment, he would perform that duty at any cost, even at the risk of hastening the inevitable dissolution of the present composite Liberal party. But the habit of believing that to be right which he wishes to be right, the custom of turning the mind's eye steadily away from unwelcome facts and unpleasant considerations, the faculty of inventing excuses successfully in the court of conscience for a convenient but doubtful course of conduct, is generally fatal; and apparently it has been fatal to Mr. GLADSTONE. Who does not see that his ingeniously constructed sentences (which one has always to read twice before any meaning can be evolved from them) are a species of intellectual tight-rope dancing? The issue is as plain as issue can be. Ought the Established Churches of England and Scotland to be separated from the State and stripped of their possessions, in whole or in part, or not? A large section of the Liberal party say "Yes;" but another section, equally strong (taking England and Scotland together), say "No." The Liberal leader dare not—we fear that is the true word—declare his own convictions for fear of offending either the one section or the other. He therefore temporises; assures the Churchmen that the question is of no practical importance in the meantime, and that the present is all that need be looked at; while he flatters the Nonconformists, calls them "the backbone" of the party, sympathises with their envious passion for spoliation, and does not say a word to discourage them from their aims. Could the part of GALLIO be acted to greater perfection? With the political aspect of the question Mr. GLADSTONE does deal; he says "Wait." But with the religious aspect of it he will have nothing whatever to do, except to say that he believes the Church of England could do excellently well if her endowments were taken away—a piece of chilly comfort which we commend to the notice of Liberal Churchmen.

The chief question of the hour, however, in home politics, is the Disestablishment of the Church of Scotland. All the world knows that the Church of England and the Church of Scotland are fundamentally different, and that the fall of one neither logically nor practically, involves the fall of the other. But they are allies. The cause of the one is, in great part at least, the cause of the other. Both contend for a sober and regular performance of Divine service, for a settled faith, for the freedom of the clergy from the caprice of the laity. Mr. GLADSTONE is perfectly right in saying that the question of Disestablishment in Scotland is separable from the same question in England; but he is also right in saying that the friends of the Church of England will rush to the polls to succour the Church of Scotland in the hour of her need. That that hour has come, no one who knows Scotland doubts for a moment. The cry has been raised, and has been echoed from the Solway to the Pentland Frith. The Moderate Liberal newspapers acknowledge that Mr. GLADSTONE'S coming to cry, "Peace, "peace," has been deferred too long. The Radical and Free Church papers are furious, and no wonder. For years the only reply of the Liberal leaders, of Lord HARTINGTON as well as of the ex-Premier, has been "The question "is one for the decision of the people of Scot- "land." There have been those who have thought that a great statesman and a member for a Scotch constituency ought to have an opinion of his own on a subject of that nature—that for a party leader ostentatiously to wash his hands of all principles except the one that the majority must rule was not an edifying sight. However, that was the order of the day: "Let the "people of Scotland speak, and we will act." Naturally enough the disestablishment party (who in Scotland are neither more nor less than the seceding Presbyterians) set to work. They got on so well that they won over the Liberal Associations entirely to their side, and as a consequence every Liberal candidate except nine, it is said, expressed himself in favour of the disestablishment of the Scotch Church. When it is remembered that hardly half-a-dozen Conservatives will, in all probability, be returned for the whole of Scotland, one can see what that means. Undoubtedly there is a large minority of Conservatives; but that minority is spread over the whole country; it is swamped under the "single-member system," and can only find articulate expression in one or two constituencies besides that of the Universities of Glasgow and Aberdeen. So far as the voice of the party leaders in each district can be taken to be the voice of the people, there cannot be a doubt that the Radicals have not only a clear but a sweeping majority; and their right to bring the matter to the arbitrament of the poll is, after Mr. GLADSTONE'S express and repeated declarations that the matter is one for the people of Scotland to decide, simply incontestable. Yet they are to be quietly shelved—with every expression of sympathy, it is true, but still shelved for the present. The friends of the Church of England may congratulate themselves on the aid which already, before the day of battle has arrived, the expression of their sympathy has afforded to their allies north of the Tweed.

For the moment, then, the hounds are beaten off, and are retiring with many growls to their kennels. The question is, will the hare lie down content without asking the real reason of this pause in the attack? Is it love of the Church of England or respect for the Church of Scotland which makes Mr. GLADSTONE unwilling to have the question of Disestablishment raised? If it were, one manly, straightforward word from his lips, one word saying that he at least would be no party to any such scheme, would have ended the matter. But the time for saying such a word has passed. It will never be spoken now. The political propaganda of the sects is too precious to be thrown away: the Nonconformists must on no account be offended. But if it is merely from party considerations that the Liberal leader is repressing the zeal of the "Liberationists," the Church of England may well ask herself—What is the worth of support like this? What sort of a friend is it who pretends, or who persuades himself, that he can do me better service by fighting in silence side by side with my bitterest foes, than by boldly declaring his attachment to my cause? Every vote cast for a Liberal candidate at the next election is a vote cast for the disestablishment and disendowment of the Churches of England and Scotland, unless the candidate declares that he has no intention of supporting any such measure either now or at any future time. A matter of five or ten years is, in the life of a nation or of a Church, hardly worth counting. If the bulk of the Liberal party meditate an attack upon the Church of England, any strengthening of that party is a strengthening of the attacking force. No true friend of the Church of England, no wise friend of Christianity, will rank himself in the meantime with the only party from which danger can be apprehended, because the attack may be delayed till it can be delivered with greater effect.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

In all probability, whether Liberals or Conservatives have a victory at the polls, a Bill dealing with Local Government in the counties will be introduced by the leader of the next House of Commons. The need for such a measure is not apparent to everybody. No one can say that the question is a burning one. It is not pretended by their bitterest enemies that the present authorities in the counties have not discharged their duties with care, economy, and integrity. But this does not content our modern reformers. It is objected that we have at present in the counties the anomaly of taxation without representation. It may be safely asserted that there is not a single man in England who has ever had occasion to change his residence from the country to a large town who does not think that the anomaly might very well be left to take care of itself. Still, it is there; and as much might be made of it in Radical hands, it is hardly probable that it will survive much longer. If the Conservative party deal with the matter, it may be presumed that they will take some care that those who have managed the affairs of the counties so well in the past shall not be excluded from a share in local government in the future—in other words, those who have proved themselves to be fit for this particular branch of the QUEEN'S service will not be simply sent about their business. On the other hand, if the Bill is a Liberal measure, it may be expected that the representative system alone will be recognised, "the "voice of the labourer shall be as good as the "voice of the squire, or the voice of the "parson;" or in other words, wherever the Liberal party are in a majority, the whole matter is to be placed in the hands of the local Liberal clique. In view of such a contingency, it is important to see what "Local "Government" exactly means in the minds of the Liberal leaders—what powers they wish to place in the hands of the local authorities of the future; and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN expounded pretty plainly on Monday evening the proposals which he is prepared to advocate and to carry out if he can.

The first point to be noticed in the programme is the absence of any suggestion that the Local Councils are to be subject to any supervision whatever. There is no mention of any Board which might control the proceedings of the Councils, as the Local Government Board controls the vagaries of Boards of Guardians. Not even the consent of Parliament is to be required for whatever the Councils may see fit in their wisdom to undertake; an aggrieved ratepayer or a harassed landlord will have no appeal, unless the Council actually go beyond their legal rights, in which case, of course, there would be the expensive remedy of applying to the Queen's Bench Division for a *mandamus*. In the case of charities, which Mr. CHAMBERLAIN proposes to hand over to "representative bodies," it is specially proposed that the Charity Commissioners, whose oversight has been hitherto thought desirable in the case of many charitable trusts, shall have no power of interference. The democratic element is to have no counterpoise, it is to be subject to no check, to brook no interference.

These powerful Councils having been set up, what are to be their spheres of operation? Mr. CHAMBERLAIN renewed on Monday evening his demand that these bodies should have power forcibly to take land from unwilling purchasers at the price of a willing purchaser, pay for it out of the rates, and establish upon the land so taken a number of small farmers. The glaring injustice, the economic madness, and the certainty of political corruption involved in this scheme have been exposed over and over again; and we do not propose to discuss the question at present. Argument is, in fact, unnecessary; for there is hardly an honest man who knows the present condition of English farming who needs to be enlightened on the matter; and with those who are either dishonest or ignorant argument is useless. But the second point of the scheme is that the Local Councils should have "the power of protecting "the rights of the poor in regard to open spaces "and common lands." We had always supposed that HER MAJESTY'S Judges were empowered to protect the rights of all HER MAJESTY'S subjects, rich and poor alike. If it is merely meant that the new county authorities are to undertake the functions of a Commons' Preservation Society, we can only say that the proposal, though probably harmless, might easily be interpreted to mean that these Councils should have power to appropriate land over which certain persons have common rights, and dedicate it to the public. The ex-PRESIDENT of the BOARD of TRADE has fallen into a not unnatural error on this subject—an error which he had not the grace to acknowledge (when was Mr. CHAMBERLAIN known to acknowledge an error?) when he was corrected by Lord BRAMWELL. He imagines that, apart from highways and pieces of ground vested in trustees for purposes of public recreation, there are certain pieces of land in England over which the public have rights—that "commons" are "common land." The phrase "common land" is simply unknown to English law. There is not, and never has been, land in England over which all Englishmen have equal rights. Land may be "held in common" by two or more persons, or several persons may have "rights in common" or "common rights," as of turf-cutting, pasturing cattle or sheep, over a certain piece of land; and these rights may be such as to render its cultivation impracticable. But only they who have such rights—as, for example, the tenants of a certain manor—have any interest whatever in the land, besides, of course, the person or persons in whom the fee-simple is vested. "The poor" or "the public" have, as the poor or as members of the community, no rights whatever in any common in England, unless it has been dedicated to the public. Lord BRAMWELL pointed out this in a letter to the *Times*; and what is Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S reply? First, he abuses Lord BRAMWELL as "one of the most dogmatic and arbitrary "Judges that ever sat upon the English "Bench." Then he says that this arbitrary Judge contradicted him "with a strength of "language and with an intolerance which are "peculiarly his own." Here Mr. CHAMBERLAIN not only brings a false accusation against his antagonist, but, for once in his life, he is unjust to himself. Next, he quotes the late JOHN STUART MILL, only to show that Mr. MILL was as ignorant of the subject as he is himself. And lastly, the true demagogue bursts out in the following sentence, in which insolence, cant, and an immoral appeal to covetousness are equally mingled:—"We will "have to teach Lord BRAMWELL, and others "like him, that there are rights of the poor "infinitely more important to the welfare and "happiness of the country than those which "are already protected by laws in which the "people took no part, and in which their "interests have been consistently ignored." The suggestion is openly made that there are rights of which the law knows nothing, of which each man is to be the sole judge. It is more than hinted that unless people have the opportunity of voting for a member of Parliament, laws made by Parliament are not binding upon their consciences, or have at least an inferior sanction. How a law made by a Parliament to which the candidate for whom a certain elector voted is not returned should bind that elector's conscience, any more than a law made by a Parliament when that elector had no vote, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN will perhaps some day con-

descend to explain. It seems, then, to be a part of the Radical programme that land over which several persons hold rights in common is to be taken for public purposes for nothing, and the rights of the commoners and those of the lord of the manor totally ignored. At least, it seems that there is considerable danger that Local Councils, dominated by Radical influence and unfettered by any controlling authority, may adopt that view of their rights and duties.

A third point to which the late PRESIDENT of the BOARD of TRADE adverted was that to Local Councils should be committed "the "settlement of the great question of tem- "perance"—that is to say, the power of deny- ing to the thirsty traveller or the wearied labourer the refreshment of a glass of ale. We are not surprised that at this point of the Radical leader's speech there were "interruptions." We fancy that this question, not of temperance, but of fanatical bigotry, will take more settling than Mr. CHAMBERLAIN imagines. Some people may think that it will be safe to leave this question at least to the chosen representatives of the agricultural labourer. But that would not be so all over England. There are districts—Cornwall, for example—in which the mass of the working-people are teetotalers. We do not deny for a moment that they may be all the better for that; but we do deny that they are therefore fitted to legislate for their neighbours upon the question. "Local Option" is a piece of the grossest petty tyranny that was ever contemplated; and the demand can only be defeated in one way. If the country is so hoodwinked and so unfortunate as to re- turn the Liberals to power, the Conservative party must use every effort to secure that either the new Local Councils should consist partly of Justices of the Peace, or that at least the members should be elected by a system of minority voting. Whether the crushing of the minorities in hundreds of con- stituencies for the Parliamentary elections will prove to be either tolerable or safe remains to be seen. The value of the system of cumula- tive voting has been abundantly proved in the case of the School Boards. Unless in some towns the minorities had been able by its means to seat some members of the Board, there would have been no bound or check to the extravagance and intolerance of the majority. The Conservative party should insist that this invaluable protection of the rights and interests of minorities should not be thrown away when the time comes for settling the question of Local Government.

HEROES AND HEROINES.

Every novelist who aspires to make his book a work of art knows that his hero will be his chief difficulty. Mankind is impatient of excess of virtue; all the dangers and difficulties in the world successfully overcome, all the suffering, the bravery and strength of HERCULES, the grace of APOLLO, will not render him acceptable, will not do more than make him tolerable to the reader. Women are perhaps more gentle in their criticism; but for male readers the hero is generally but a necessary evil. They never think him quite worthy of his bliss when he is happily united to the heroine, who probably is a really charming girl. Even SCOTT could not manage his heroes. MORTON, in *Old Mortality*, BERTRAM in *Guy Mannering*, LOVEL in *The Antiquary*, even WAVERLEY himself, if not exactly feeble, are rather dull and uninteresting persons. The life-like male characters are DANDIE DINMONT and CUDDIE HEADRIGG, JONATHAN OLDBUCK and ANDREW FAIRSERVICE—men who do not aspire to a fair bride and a comfortable estate. Some of the greatest novelists have avoided the difficulty by having no hero at all. Don QUIXOTE is not one in the received sense of the word; and THACKERAY chose to put on the title-page of his masterpiece "A Novel without "a Hero." DOBBIN is a hero indeed, but not in the conventional sense of the term. You love him, and admire him; but he is hardly one's ideal of manhood. TROLLOPE habitually disregards the old-fashioned plan, and sets up perhaps the feeblest set of heroes that ever stalked through the pages of fiction. FRANK GRESHAM in *Doctor Thorne* is not a bad fellow by any means; but even he offers to marry a woman he did not love for the sake of her money; while PHINEAS FINN, CLAVERING, and the rest, with their facile love-making, their flirtations, and countless weaknesses, are as far from heroic as they can well be. It is a sad falling-off from the constancy and single- hearted devotion of the old ideal; and when we do meet with a man who is true to his first love, like JOHN GREY in *Can You Forgive Her?* he is apt to be dreadfully tame. Weak heroes are, however, not so dreadful as bad ones. GUY LIVINGSTONE, ROCHESTER, and the gentle- men of that kidney, who are tacitly held up to admiration, though the only virtue they possess is physical courage, must have done something in their day to lower the popular ideal of what a man should be. It might have been supposed that female novelists would have had greater success than their brothers of the pen in portraying an admirable man, but it has not been so. ADAM BEDE, FELIX HOLT, Mr. DARCY, and JOHN HALIFAX are sad prigs, though the two former wear fustian instead of broadcloth.

The heroine is not so hard a subject to tackle. The heart of man naturally feels sym- pathy for a girl who is either "singularly "lovely," or endowed with a grace, or a sweet- ness, or a fascination, which, we are told, is incomparably superior to beauty, and who is ill-used, or thwarted, or bullied into the bargain. Even an ordinary novelist may hope to make his heroine fairly attractive; and the masters of the art, who seem unable to make their heroes all they could wish them to be, charm us with their heroines. Who has not fallen in love with DI VERNON, with LORNA DOONE, with LILY DALE? THACKERAY's good women, it is true, have always, or nearly always, a touch of hard- ness in them, that prevents them from being quite lovable. LAURA PENDENNIS and Lady CASTLEWOOD are not exactly the sort of women that most men would care to marry. It will always be easier to draw an imperfect than a nearly perfect character, both because the imperfect character presents more angles, so to speak, gives better opportunities for light and shade, and because we more easily recognise the former as harmonising with our personal experience. Our ideas of life are bounded by the horizon with which we are familiar; and if a work of art does not remind us of anything we have actually seen, we are apt to pass it by with the supercilious remark that it is "not true to "life."

As for historical heroes, most of them have to undergo a process of pretty thick white- washing before they are presented in drawing- room circles. The process has become fashion- able of late years, and has been extended to limits which once would have been thought impossible. Even NERO, we believe, has had his ingenious and charitable apologists; while JULIAN the Apostate has been regarded by some as a kind of martyr. HENRY VIII. has been represented not only as a prince of exceptional strength of purpose, but as having been animated habitually by the purest patriotism, the tenderest feeling for others, and the strictest love of justice. Even his murders have been held up to admiration as indicating greater tenderness of conscience and greater kingliness of mind than the looser conduct of some of his descendants. Sometimes, however, heroes are made by the simpler process of omitting whatever does not tally with the heroic in the character repre- sented. The late Mr. CARLYLE, if some critics are to be believed, was not entirely innocent of whittling away unpleasant verities when he wrote his *Heroes and Hero-Worshippers*. Be this as it may, it cannot be denied that the tendency in a writer of Biography to minimise defects and omit disagreeable circumstances in the life of his hero or heroine must be very strong. The very *raison d'être* of the book seems to be taken away if the subject of the memoir is shown to have been a not very worshipful individual after all. This is no doubt the reason why biographies are generally so dull and unlifelike: the picture is necessarily out of drawing. Dul- ness, however, is a secondary sort of crime, and one that generally brings its own punishment. There is another sort of biography which is much more reprehensible. In a sort of analogy to the too realistic heroes of some modern novelists, we have the system of frank and fear- less unveiling adopted by some modern biographers. The interests of truth are sup- posed to demand that the bad as well as the good should be told of the subject of the memoir. The best way, perhaps, might be, so far as the private life is concerned, to tell neither. In any case the gentle admission of a failing in private life is surely enough. There is no man whose memory can quite dispense with some decent drapery.

It is odd how popular sentiment lingers round some names in history with a tender, excusing regret, and refuses to some of the actors on the world's stage the name of hero. MARY Queen of Scots was not exactly an heroic personage; but all young people, and a large majority of those who are no longer young, keep a corner for her memory in their hearts. Her friendliness, her courage, her beauty, her cruel death and dying words are remembered; her faults are forgotten. On the other hand, ELIZABETH's patriotism, her high spirit, her many great qualities of mind are not remem- bered so well as the fact that she threw her guest into prison, and after eighteen years' confinement brought herself to order her execu- tion. The popular imagination sees, or thinks it sees, in an act or a phrase something typical of the character, and that is re- membered, as a badge of good or evil, to the end of time. It seemed at one time as if the first NAPOLEON would have taken the place of a hero, at least among his own countrymen; but he has not done so. He is known as "the first Napoleon," not as "Napoleon the Great." He was admired for his successes, not for his worth; and when the great failure came, the hero was a nobody once more. The one man of the present generation whose name will probably go down to our children as that of a hero failed when he seemed on the point of success; and the bones of him who led an "ever-victorious army" have found some nameless grave.

Yet, in all the essentials of true heroism, the English Army has probably more than one living GORDON—not any quite like him, but some like him in great matters, though unlike him in smaller things. Heroes, indeed, are all around us, and heroines, though we know them not as we pass them on the street. Some are curates, laying down their lives slowly, but none the less surely, in the effort to make some human homes a little brighter, some human hearts a little better. Some are colliers, who, undismayed by the prospect of almost certain death, will go quietly down into a pit filled with choke-damp to rescue their imprisoned comrades. And some have tasks which are quite as hard, yet never form the subject of a newspaper paragraph. As for heroines, they are even more easily to be met with than heroes. The best of men, men of the greatest force and fire of character, of warm affections, and much true benevolence, are often unpleasant to live with. They are apt to be harsh, domineering, selfish in little things. The best of women are not so; and the loveliest types that are preserved in the pages of fiction are still living and breathing among us. JEANIE DEANS still wields her gentle sceptre, all unknown to the world, in many a Scottish home; sweet MILLY BARTON is yet to be found in many an Eng- lish parsonage. The sweetest characteristic of these unnoticed heroines is that they are absolutely unconscious that they are heroines at all. They think that they are trying to do their best, and that is all; it does not occur to them that angels can do no more.

Reviews.

SIR HENRY MAINE ON POPULAR GOVERNMENT.*

We are very glad that Sir Henry Maine has seen his way to republish, in a more permanent shape, with additions and corrections, those Essays from the *Quarterly*, which, on their first appear- ance, aroused so much interest, and indeed form so important a contribution to the study of modern politics. The great value that attaches to them as a contribution to this study can hardly be disputed even by those who differ from the conclusion at which the essayist arrives. To quote his own words, which, though originally intended to have reference to other writers, yet most truly express his own position:—

> In our day, when the extension of Popular Government is throwing all the older political ideas into utter con- fusion, a man of ability can hardly render a higher ser- vice to his country than by the analysis and correction of the assumptions which pass from mind to mind in the multitude, without inspiring a doubt of their truth and genuineness.

This is the service which Sir Henry himself, a man of most unquestioned ability, has performed in the volume before us, and full of value and full of interest is his contribution towards such analysis and correction. It has become a com- monplace alike among friends and foes of the Democratic movement that the future of the world is in the hands of the Democracy. The writer himself thus describes the position which he attacks with so much vigour and so much success:—

> Democracy is commonly described as having an in- herent superiority over every other form of government. It is supposed to advance with an irresistible and pro- ordained movement. It is thought to be full of the pro- mise of blessings to mankind; yet if it fails to bring with it these blessings, or even proves to be prolific of the heaviest calamities, it is not held to deserve condemna- tion. These are the familiar marks of a theory which claims to be independent of experience and observation on the plea that it bears the credentials of a golden age, non-historical and unverifiable.

The author claims when considering this view to adduce in evidence a set of political facts which have disclosed themselves side by side with this *à priori* political theory, and are, as he considers, entitled to much more consideration than they have hitherto received. He then points out with much vigorous elequence how many assumptions commonly made on the subject must be discarded if a correct opinion is to be arrived at concerning Popular Government as it verges on Democracy, which is now regarded by so many political thinkers—many of them in hope, but many more in fear—as its natural bourne. The line of argument which Sir Henry Maine has adopted is best described in his own language:—

> In the essay on the "Nature of Democracy" I have given some reason for thinking that, in the extreme form to which it tends, it is, of all kinds of government, by far the most difficult. In the "Age of Progress" I have argued that the perpetual change which, as understood in modern times, it appears to demand, is not in harmony with the normal forces ruling human nature, and is apt therefore to lead to cruel disappointment or serious disaster. If I am in any degree right, Popular Govern- ment, especially as it approaches the Democratic form, will tax to the utmost all the political sagacity and statesmanship of the world to keep it from misfortune. Happily, if there are some facts which augur ill for its duration and success, there are others which suggest that it is not beyond the powers of human reason to discover remedies for its infirmities. For the purpose of bringing out a certain number of these latter facts, and at the same time of indicating the quarter in which the political student (once set free from *à priori* assumptions) may seek materials for a reconstruction of his science, I have examined and analysed the Constitution of the United States, a topic on which much misconception seems to be abroad.

This last essay is by no means the least inte- resting of the four, and it seems to suggest that the way of escape from the evils of the modern theory of the transcendent merits of Democracy,

> quod minime reris Graiâ pandetur ab urbe.

In other words, it is in the Constitution of the United States, when properly understood and traced home to its true source, that the inquirer will find the most effective safeguards which political ingenuity has yet devised against the evils of Democracy, as that term is generally understood.

The author claims to examine the question whether the advent of Democracy as the per- manent form of government in the future is as inevitable as it is generally admitted to be both by friends and foes in a different spirit from that which animates either the enthusiastic supporters or the despairing opponents of such a view. He considers that the political institutions of the various States of Europe at the present day are passing through a transition state between the old view that rulers are presumbly wise and good, and the new view that rulers are the agents and servants of the wise and good master who is obliged to delegate his power because, being a multitude, he cannot use it. He from this proceeds to examine the question how far actual experience countenances the common assumption of our day that Popular Government is likely to be of indefinitely long duration. Judging from actual experience, he pronounces a judgment unfavour- able to that assumption, while at the same time pointing out how very little actual experience is likely to influence those to whom the triumph of Democracy is an article of faith. The view of those who, without denying the conclusions to be drawn from past events, assume that no such mistakes will be made in the future as Democracies have made in the past, is met by a reference to the signs of the times, which Sir Henry considers by no means of favourable augury for the future direction of great multitudes by statesmen wiser than them- selves. The warning afforded by the plébiscites during the French Empire is urged with much effect, and it is pointed out how the arguments which the friends of liberty directed against them are in reality arguments against the very prin- ciple of Democracy. No less effective is the argu- ment drawn from the tendency of Governments as they widen their electoral bases towards a dead level of commonplace opinion, a danger which is especially present to our minds when we read the electoral addresses of the candidates at our coming General Election. The vain delusions fondly imagined of those who suppose that with the advent of Democratic rule would come a golden age of indefinitely increased human happiness are admirably combated, and it is pointed out how the splendid promises with which the advanced Liberals would beguile the new voters are based upon the theory "that the stock "of good things in the world is practically "unlimited in quantity, and that it is (so to speak) "contained in a vast storehouse or granary, and "that out of this it is now doled in unequal shares "and unfair proportions." This inequality and unfairness Democratic rule is intended to correct; but the advocates of it forget that no Government can indefinitely increase human happiness, and that the stock of good things is not indefinitely elastic. The mischief of a relaxation of the motives for exertion, whether by promising too much or by taking away too much, is admirably pointed out; and it is shown how under the government of the United States, in which coercive restraint except in politics is reduced to a minimum, the cardinal doctrine of political economy, that the weakest must go to the wall, has been most ruthlessly enforced.

That Democracy is, despite all the exaggerated language about it to which we have been accus- tomed, merely a form of government, and not an Utopia *per se*, supplies the substance of the second essay, and the writer combats the idea that Demo- cracies are more active in legislation than other forms of government.

> The great virtue of Democracies in some men's eyes, their great vice in the eyes of others, is that they are thought to be more active than other forms of govern ment in the discharge of one particular function. This is the alteration and transformation of law and custom—the process known to us as reforming legislation. As a matter of fact, this process—which is an indispensable, though in the long run a very subordinate, province of a good modern government—is not at all peculiar to De- mocracies. If the whole of the known history of the human race be examined, we shall see that the great authors of legislative change have been powerful Monar chies. The long wail at the iniquities of Nineveh an

* *Popular Government.* Four Essays by Sir Henry Sumner Maine.—London: John Murray, 1885.

Babylon, which runs through the latter part of the Old Testament, is the expression of Jewish resentment at the "big legislation" with which the nations that most study the Old Testament are supposed to have fallen in love. The trituration of old usage was carried infinitely further by the Roman Emperors, ever increasing in thoroughness as the despotism grew more stringent. The Emperor was, in fact, the symbolic beast which the Prophet saw devouring, breaking to pieces and stamping the residue with its feet. We ourselves live in the dust of Roman Imperialism, and by far the largest part of modern law is nothing more than a sedimentary formation left by the Roman legal reforms. The rule holds good through all subsequent history. The one wholesale legal reformer of the Middle Ages was Charles the Great. It was the French Empire of the Bonapartes that gave real practical currency to the new French jurisprudence which has overrun the civilised world, for the Governments immediately arising out of the Revolution left little behind them beyond projects of law or laws which were practically inapplicable from the contradictions which they contained.

The truth seems to be that the extreme forms of government, Monarchy and Democracy, have a peculiarity which is absent from the more tempered political systems founded on compromise, Constitutional Kingship and Aristocracy. When they are first established in absolute completeness, they are highly destructive. There is a general, sometimes chaotic, upheaval, while the *nouvelles couches* are settling into their place in the transformed commonwealth. The new rulers sternly insist that everything shall be brought into strict conformity with the central principle of the system over which they preside; and they are aided by numbers of persons to whom the old principles were hateful, from their fancy for ideal reforms, from impatience of a monotonous stability, or from a natural destructiveness of temperament. What the old Monarchies, established in the valleys of the great Eastern rivers, had to contend against was religious tenacity and tribal obstinacy; and they transported whole populations in order that these might be destroyed. What a modern Democracy fights with is privilege; and it knows no rest till this is trampled out. But the legislation of absolutism, democratic or otherwise, is transitory. Before the Jews had taken home their harps from Babylon, they found themselves the subjects of another mighty conquering Monarchy, of which they observed with wonder that the law of the Medes and Persians altereth not. There is no belief less warranted by actual experience, than that a Democratic Republic is, after the first and in the long-run, given to reforming legislation. As is well known to scholars, the ancient Republics hardly legislated at all; their Democratic energy was expended upon war, diplomacy, and justice; but they put nearly insuperable obstacles in the way of a change of law. The Americans of the United States have hedged themselves round in exactly the same way. They only make laws within the limits of their Constitutions, and especially of the Federal Constitution; and, judged by what has become the English standard, their legislation within these limits is almost trivial. As I attempted to show in my first essay, the legislative infertility of Democracies springs from permanent causes. The prejudices of the people are far stronger than those of the privileged classes; they are far more vulgar; and they are far more dangerous, because they are apt to run counter to scientific conclusions. This assertion is curiously confirmed by the political phenomena of the moment. The most recent of Democratic inventions is the "Referendum" of the Swiss Federal Constitution, and of certain Cantonal Constitutions. On the demand of a certain number of citizens, a law voted by the Legislature is put to the vote of the entire population, lest by any chance its "mandate" should have been exceeded. But to the confusion and dismay of the Radical leaders in the Legislature, the measures which they most prized, when so put, have been negatived.

The effect of this last argument is to some extent diminished by the fact that in the last Referendum the Swiss Cantons have affirmed instead of negativing the measure proposed, one of the many forms of liquor laws, which are the great evidences in the present day of legislative activity. But this is only one branch of his argument, and one exception to the general result of those consultations of the people *en masse* which are a special feature in the Swiss Constitution. Freedom is, after all, as Hobbes has said, merely "political power divided into small frag-"ments;" and Democracy, which down to 1848 "meant affirmatively the ascendancy of the "middle classes or negatively the non-revival of "the old feudal society," came after 1848 to mean what it is now generally understood to mean, the government of the commonwealth by the many. The enthusiasm for it is as modern as that sense of its inevitableness which so much cramps the efforts of the Conservative party at the present day, and, as is so often the case with prophecies, tends so much to bring about the fulfilment of the prophecy. Not the least service which Sir Henry Maine has rendered by this opportune publication is the manner in which he has shown how groundless is this mischievous delusion. He has pointed out the inherent difficulties of Democratic Government, while most of us have been content to dwell on its inevitable approach. We must here turn aside for a moment to quote the very striking passage which he has devoted to the consideration of party, one of the main forces by which those difficulties are to be overcome if overcome at all:—

> No force acting on mankind has been less carefully examined than Party, and yet none better deserves examination. The difficulty which Englishmen in particular feel about it is very like that which men once experienced when they were told that the air had weight. It enveloped them so evenly and pressed on them so equally, that the assertion seemed incredible. Nevertheless it is not hard to show that Party and Party Government are very extraordinary things. Let us suppose it to be still the fashion to write the apologues so dear to the last century, in which some stranger from the East or West, some Persian full of intelligent curiosity, some Huron still unspoilt by civilisation, or some unprejudiced Bonze from India or China, described the beliefs and usages of European countries, just as they struck him, to his kinsmen at the other end of the world. Let us assume that in one of these trifles, by a Voltaire or a Montesquieu, the traveller gave an account of a cultivated and powerful European Commonwealth, in which the system of government consisted in half the cleverest men in the country taking the utmost pains to prevent the other half from governing. Or let us imagine some modern writer, with the unflinching perspicacity of a Machiavelli, analysing the great Party Hero—leader or agitator—as the famous Italian analysed the personage equally interesting and important in his day, the Tyrant or Prince. Like Machiavelli, he would not stop to praise or condemn on ethical grounds: "he would follow the real truth of "things rather than an imaginary view of them." "Many Party Heroes," he would say, "have been imagined, who were never seen or known to exist in reality." But he would describe them as they really were. Allowing them every sort of private virtue, he would deny that their virtues had any effect on their public conduct, except as far as they helped to make men believe their public conduct virtuous. But this public conduct he would find to be not so much immoral as non-moral. He would infer, from actual observation, that the Party Hero was debarred by his position from the full practice of the great virtues of veracity, justice, and moral intrepidity. He could seldom tell the full truth; he could never be fair to persons other than his followers and associates; he could rarely be bold except in the interests of his faction. The picture drawn by him would be one which few living men would deny to be correct, though they might excuse its occurrence in nature on the score of moral necessity. And then, a century or two later, when Democracies were as much forgotten as the Italian Principedoms, our modern Machiavelli would perhaps be infamous and his work a proverb of immorality.
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> Party has many strong affinities with Religion. Its devotees, like those of a religious creed, are apt to substitute the fiction that they have adopted it upon mature deliberation for the fact that they were born into it or stumbled into it. But they are in the highest degree reluctant to come to an open breach with it; they count it shame to speak of its weak points, except to co-religionists; and, whenever it is in serious difficulty, they return to its assistance or rescue. Their relation to those outside the pale—the relation of Whig to Tory, of Conservative to Liberal—is on the whole exceedingly like that of Jew to Samaritan. But the closest resemblances are between party discipline and military discipline; and indeed, historically speaking, party is probably nothing more than a survival and a consequence of the primitive combativeness of mankind. It is war without the city transmuted into war within the city, but mitigated in the process. The best historical justification which can be offered for it is that it has often enabled portions of the nation, who would otherwise be armed enemies, to be only factions. Party strife, like strife in arms, develops many high but imperfect and one-sided virtues; it is fruitful of self-denial and self-sacrifice. But wherever it prevails, a great part of ordinary morality is unquestionably suspended; a number of maxims are received, which are not those of religion or ethics; and men do acts which, except as between enemies, and except as between political opponents, would be very generally classed as either immoralities or sins.
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> Party disputes were originally the occupation of aristocracies, which joined in them because they loved the sport for its own sake; and the rest of the community followed one side or the other as its clients. Nowadays, party has become a force acting with vast energy on multitudinous Democracies, and a number of artificial contrivances have been invented for facilitating and stimulating its action. Yet, in a Democracy, the fragment of political power falling to each man's share is so extremely small, that it would be hardly possible, with all the aid of the Caucus, the Stump, and the Campaign newspaper, to rouse the interests of thousands or millions of men, if party were not coupled with another political force. This, to speak plainly, is corruption. A story is current respecting a conversation of the great American, Alexander Hamilton, with a friend who expressed wonder at Hamilton's extreme admiration of so corrupt a system as that covered by the name of the British Constitution. Hamilton is said to have, in reply, expressed his belief that when the corruption came to an end the Constitution would fall to pieces.

How great a part corruption has played in the history of Hamilton's own country we need not pause to recall; but in the present day, when our assumption of superior virtue is evidenced by the Corrupt Practices Act and other legislative attempts at ensuring purity of election, it is not without good reason that Sir Henry points out that there may be yet another kind of bribery than that against which such enactments are directed, and that the "process of legislating "away the property of one class and transferring "it to another" may well be the form of corruption destined to be generally adopted in these latter days.

Special attention has been devoted by the author to the Constitution of the United States of America, for it is only in that country that the safest and most workable form of Democratic Government has been discussed and tested by experiment. We may perhaps, by way of criticism, note that Sir Henry hardly devotes sufficient attention to the Dutch Republic, which for so long a time played so prominent a part in European politics. He would probably reply to this criticism, that the rule of their High Mightinesses partook far more of the oligarchical than of the democratic character. It is, he maintains, only in the United States that the general disfavour which failure has brought upon all attempts at Democratic Government hitherto made finds an exception, and though Democracy cannot be admitted by any thoughtful student of politics to be the *summum bonum* which its admirers claim it to be, there can be no doubt that the United States have, to quote Sir Henry's words, shown that "by wise "Constitutional proceedings, thoroughly thought "out beforehand, Democracy may be made "tolerable." We must, therefore, to reach the fourth essay, pass over the very interesting third essay, on the "Age of Progress," with only a reference to the passage explaining the numerous meanings of that word which the politicians of the day apply so incorrectly, "Some "appear to employ it for mere aimless movement, "while others actually use it for movement "backwards towards a state of primitive nature." We must not, however, pass over his assertion of the fact, which we are all so likely to forget, that the enthusiasm for change which is one of the characteristics of present-day politics is not only conspicuously rare where it does prevail, but extremely modern in the world at large. The great danger of that enthusiasm is that with the craving for political excitement the chance of a great false step which can never be retraced grows also, and while we admit that, as Sir Henry acutely observes, the Second Empire never got over the disadvantage it suffered through the dulness of its home politics, we must also admit that there are more dangerous things in politics than dulness. Nor can we pause to examine the very interesting arguments for a Second Chamber contained in the same essay, but must devote the small space left at our disposal to some comments on the concluding essay, which deals with the Constitution of the United States. This the author by no means holds up as of ideal excellence in itself, but as "quite the best "example of a Commonwealth saved from disaster "by representative institutions," and as having escaped the political miscarriage which has attended on every other attempt to substitute the government of the masses for the government of one. How low the credit of Republics had sank before that successful experiment it is difficult for those to realise whose estimate of Republics is based on the success of that experiment. No form of government has been less successful—looking at all forms of government together—than the Republican, and it is this consideration which lends special interest to the study of the one successful form of Republican Government. A main element of that success is forcibly brought out in the volume before us: it is the relation of the great Federal institutions set up by the Americans to pre-existing European, and especially British, institutions.

It has to be carefully borne in mind that the construction of the American Constitution was extremely unlike that process of founding a new Constitution which in our day may be witnessed at intervals of a few years on the European Continent, and that it bore even less resemblance to the foundation of a new Republic, as the word is now understood. Whatever be the occasion of one of these new European Constitutions, be it ill success in war, or escape from foreign dominion, or the overthrow of a Government by the army or the mob, the new institutions are always shaped in a spirit of bitter dissatisfaction with the old, which, at the very best, are put upon their trial. But the enfranchised American colonists were more than satisfied with the bulk of their institutions, which were those of the several colonies to which they belonged. And, although they had fought a successful war to get rid of the King of Great Britain and of the British Parliament, they had no quarrel with Kings or Parliaments as such. Their contention was that the British King and the British Parliament had forfeited by usurpation whatever rights they had, and that they had been justly punished by dispossession. Born free Englishmen, they were not likely to deny the value of Parliaments, and, even as to Kings, it is probable that many of them had at one time shared the youthful opinion of Alexander Hamilton, who, while totally denying the claim of Parliamentary supremacy over the British colonies, except so far as they had conceded it, had argued that the "connecting, pervading principle," necessary to unite a number of individual communities under one common head, could only be found in the person and prerogative of the King, who was "King of America by virtue of a compact between the colonists and the Kings of Great Britain." When once, however, the war had been fought out, and the connection with the Parliament and the King alike had been broken, the business in hand was to supply their place. This new Constitutional link had now to be forged from local materials. Among these, there were none for making an hereditary King, hardly any for manufacturing an hereditary Second Chamber; but yet the means of enabling the now separated portion of the British Empire to discharge the functions of a fully organised State, as completely as they had been performed by the kingdom from which it was severed, must somehow be found on the west of the Atlantic. The Constitution of the United States was the fruit of signal sagacity and prescience applied to these necessities. But, again, there was almost no analogy between the new undertaking and the establishment of a modern Continental Republic. The commonwealth founded in America was only called a Republic because it had no hereditary King, and it had no hereditary King because there were no means of having one. At that time every community without an hereditary Monarchy was considered to be Republican.

But the mental operation through which the framers of the Constitution passed was this: they took the hereditary King with whom they were familiar, and reproduced him as a non-hereditary President, with powers limited and restrained whenever they appeared excessive or unsuited to the circumstances of the State. They avoided, however, what Mr. Bagehot has pointed out as the "great neglected fact in the English political sys-"tem"—the government by a Committee of the Legislature calling themselves a Cabinet. The result is that the American President, whose position is imitated from that of George III., subject to some necessary restrictions, possesses far greater independent power and authority than the successors of George III.; while his Ministers, whose position is copied from that of the Ministers of George III., have not increased in power as their English prototypes have done. In one respect the anticipations of the framers of the American Constitution have been lamentably disappointed, and it is difficult to repress a smile when we read the prediction of Hamilton that the process of election which they had devised "affords a moral certainty "that the office of President will seldom fall to the "lot of any man who is not in an eminent degree "endowed with the requisite qualifications."

The Senate of the United States, on the other hand, has more than justified the hopes of its framers, and has increased its hold on public respect, founded though it is on inequality of representation, not equality, and although—perhaps we should rather say because—it is "no more a Democratic institution than the "House of Lords." As Sir Henry Maine admirably expresses it, "the Senate of the United "States reflects the great fact of their history, "the original political equality of the several "States;" and, as he well adds, historical inequalities do not seem to be resented by Democracies in the same degree as inequalities of fortune. The lesson to be drawn from this is one which, in the coming onslaught on our own Second Chamber, we may well lay to heart, that "nothing but "an historical principle can be successfully "opposed to the principle of making all public "powers and all Parliamentary assemblies the "mere reflection of the average opinion of the "multitude."

In comparing, as is done in the volume before us, the methods of legislation in England and in America, there is certainly one advantage possessed by the latter. We refer to the precautions which are taken against changes in the Constitution. A Constitutional Amendment is fenced about with safeguards and precautionary formalities which we in England should find very useful. Were they in existence among us it would not be so easy as it has proved to be to bring about revolutions by Act of Parliament, and a mere temporary majority could not have worked its wicked will as has been so often done to our cost. In this respect the "popular government" of a Republic is more truly Conservative than the "popular "government" of the British Empire. While we are Americanising our institutions it would be well if we had the good sense to borrow the safeguards as well as the purely destructive elements which our children have adopted when they modelled their Republic on the old lines of the English Monarchy.

SOME REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.

Blackwood is distinguished by the quantity more than the quality of its fiction. "Fortune's "Wheel" keeps well up to the mark, but "The "Crack of Doom" is poor stuff, and "Daniel "Fosqué" is not much better. The three political articles are all good in their way, but in the deluge of the daily papers the Monthlies have no chance. We like the French Poets of J. P. M. better than Mr. Selkirk's "Dirge of Flodden "Field." The "Scotch Physician" is a good review of Sir Robert Christison's interesting Autobiography.

The *Contemporary* disgraces itself by a malignant libel on the Village Clergy, by one W. H. Crowhurst. The man pretends to be a Churchman, and to speak from experience; but he is obviously animated by some personal quarrel. Perhaps he has married his sister-in-law, or got into some scrape with the parson. It would be waste of time to speculate on the motive of calumnies so unmistakably the offspring of envy, hatred, and malice. M. Jules Simon should be a good authority on the General Election in France, and he regards the result as a warning against the Opportunism which is French for the Gladstone "Umbrella." "A handful of "Radicals command the majority which com-"mands the Ministry which governs France." "The Republic is preparing to die by its own "hand." Change the name, and the story is as true of our own "great Liberal party." Sir John Lubbock contributes another interesting paper on Ants, Bees, and Wasps, who really seem to reason quite as well as Mr. John Bright. Mr. Picton supports the Crofters' Cry for More Land. Mr. Bear discusses the Obstruction to Land Tenure Reform. Dr. Baring replies to Principal Fairbairn in Defence of the Vatican. Mr. J. D. Dougall advocates an Anglo-Saxon Alliance, meaning a Postal and Commercial Union of the English-speaking Nations, beginning with Colonial Federation and extending ultimately to the United States. Dr. Moxon dissects "Faith Healing." Mr. Healy raves about Ulster and Ireland; and a Greek Statesman is, perhaps, as little practical on the Position of Greece in the Present Crisis.

The *Nineteenth Century* has the advantage of a remarkable paper by Mr. Gladstone on the "Dawn of Creation and Worship." The title is perhaps a little too much in the vein of the great master of phrases, but the matter is worthy of the brighter days in which he sat for the University as a Tory and High Churchman. It is so delightful to find how clearly and conveniently he can still write on questions which he has really studied, that one cannot but deplore the fate which in making him a politician—statesman he never was—consigned him to the weaving of impenetrable ambiguities. The paper is in reply to Dr. Réville, who had selected Mr. Gladstone as representing the writers who find warrant in Holy Scripture for the assertion of a primitive revelation. Mr. Gladstone disclaims the honour with his usual modesty. He does not think that Scripture itself can be alleged either for or against the assertion, and he admits that in his early studies of Homer his eyes were somewhat dazzled. Still, he contends that the Homeric poems supply incontestable evidence of historical relationship to the Hebrew traditions, and mainly as recorded in the Book of Genesis; and, further, that the attempt to expound the Olympian mythology by the solar theory or by nature-worship is simply against all evidence. Of these two propositions he is as clearly convinced from the poems themselves as he is of the Peloponnesian War from the study of Thucydides. And independently and apart from the testimony of Homer, he has an unshaken belief in a Divine Revelation, "not resting on assumption, but made "obligatory upon me by reason." Proceeding to examine Dr. Réville's own treatment of Genesis and Homer, Mr. Gladstone effectually demolishes the assumptions of scientific unbelief. He shows that the order of creation in Genesis is that which modern science affirms as one established fact, and asks how Moses came to know the order which science has dug out of the bowels of the earth within the present century? Cuvier, Herschel, Whewell, and La Place are cited as confirming the general accordance of the Mosaic cosmogony with other results of modern inquiry. The existence of light before the creation of the sun is held by the most famous astronomers; while the six "days" of Genesis are the simplest and most intelligible expression of the successive stages of the Divine working. In criticising Dr. Réville's treatment of Homer, Mr. Gladstone shows the absolute inconsistency of his mythology with the so-called solar theory and the religion of nature. He allows them a place in some of the Aryan religions, but to make it a clear and simple explanation of Greek and Aryan systems at large is a process which our master of phrases disposes of in his peculiar style. "Mankind has long been familiar

"with a race of practitioners whom courtesy forbids to name, and whose single medicine is alike "available to deal with everyone of the thousand "figures of disease!" In a more indignant strain he smites the impious exultation "recalling the "frantic orgies of the Commune" with which the negation of Deity is proclaimed—and that, too, by *women!* One who has been "long wont to "unship creed as sailors discharge excess of cargo "in a storm, passing at length into formal atheism, "rejoices to find herself on the open, free, and "breezy common of humanity. Another finds the "harmony of life in Darwin's physical evolution, "which may be true (like the solar theory), may "be delightful and wonderful *in its right place;* "but are we really to believe that varieties of "animals, brought about through domestication "and the wasting of organs (for instance, the tails "of men) by disuse, ... exhibit to us the "great *arcanum* of creation, the sum and centre of "life, so that mind and spirit are dethroned from 'their old supremacy, ... perhaps only "excrescences of the material creation?" "It is "difficult," he concludes, "to see anything but "infatuation in the destructive temperament which "leads the notion that to substitute a blind me"chanism for the hand of God in the affairs of life "is to enlarge the scope of remedial agency, that "to dismiss the highest of all inspirations is to "elevate the strain of human thought and life; and "that each of us is to rejoice that our several units are "to be disintegrated at death into countless millions "of organisms; for such, it seems, is the latest "revelation delivered from the fragile tripod of a "modern Delphi." Comparing this noble paper with the ambiguous evasions by which the author palters with the congenial utterances of "reli"gious equality" before the tripod in Midlothian, we are reminded that Mr. Gladstone's better studies belong to the "thirty years of his Parlia"mentary life which was passed in freedom from "the calls of office," and we cordially wish him the like freedom to the end of his days. Of the other papers we can only just notice Mr. Hulbert's "State Christianity and the French Elections," confirming from personal observation Lord Salisbury's remark that the defeat of the Government was mainly due to their persecution of the Church; Mr. Hyndman's identification of Radicalism with Socialism, which is what "the people" really want and mean to have; and Mr. Dicey's "Vote "of a Moderate Liberal," which by every rule of conscience and logic must be given to the Conservatives.

Macmillan opens with a new production of the Poet Laureate (this time of three widely spaced pages), which is devoutly praised by his worshippers. It is entitled "Vastness," and if we could only understand it we should all, doubtless, vastly admire it. On the other hand, Mrs. Ritchie's novel of "Mrs. Dymond" is level to the meanest comprehension, and we can find nothing in it to admire. A ramble "On Classic Ground," *i.e.*, in the vicinity of Oxford, brings in Cumnor, and historically refutes the romance of Amy Robsart as told by Sir Walter. Amy Robsart was married to Robert Dudley in open day at Sheen, in the presence of King Edward VI. She did break her neck by falling down stairs at Cumnor, and was buried with much ceremony in the chancel of St. Mary's, Oxford, in September, 1560. But she was not a Countess, nor ever at Kenilworth, for it was after her death that Dudley was made an earl and became possessor of the castle.

Mr. Alfred Austin's paper, "Skeletons at the "Feast," in the *National Review*, if it does not say anything that is new about the political situation—for that would be well-nigh impossible—nevertheless admirably sums up the issue before the electors. Mr. Philip Vernon Smith's article on "the Church and the Coming Elections" insists once more on the duty of enlightening the people on the question of Disestablishment and Disendowment. The local working of the Birmingham Caucus is detailed in an instructive paper by a Birmingham Tory; Mr. J. Wilson illustrates the benefits of British rule in India from the example of a single district; Mr. A. W. Roberts, in an able paper on "Low Prices and "Hostile Tariffs," maintains that the present low prices are due to protective tariffs rather than to any scarcity of gold; that prices are relatively to English prices higher in the protectionist countries than they were fifteen years ago; that the system of free imports in this country is something quite distinct from a real free trade; and that the time has come for abandoning a system built on the false assumption that foreign countries would follow our example. Mr. Kebbel concludes his papers on "Tory Prime Ministers" with an excellent article on Lord Beaconsfield, which is, as might have been expected, the best of the series.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

Under the title of *The Seven Gifts* (Macmillan and Co.) the Archbishop of Canterbury has published the Charge which he recently addressed to the Diocese of Canterbury in his Primary Visitation. The Charge was delivered in the form of seven addresses, each one taking for its title and subject one of the Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit. The final test, as the Archbishop observes in the introductory portion of his Charge, of the faithfulness of a Church must be found in its reflection of those sacred Gifts. Every true organisation in the Church is a manifestation of some distinct emanation from the Spirit of Truth, while each of His Gifts has its correlative manifestation in the Church. They, in fact, cover the whole area of Life, individual and corporate. Christian Thought should be under the guidance of the Spirit of Wisdom; Christian Education under the Spirit of Understanding; the Church's Deliberations are charged with the Spirit of Counsel; her Action with the Spirit of Strength; her Doctrine is inspired by the Spirit of Knowledge; her Worship by the Spirit of Godliness; her Morals by the Spirit of the Fear of God. This is the plan of the Charge, and how admirably it is worked out all readers of this volume—and we trust they will be many—will readily acknowledge. On each and all of these subjects the Archbishop remarks are not only excellent in themselves, but particularly valuable as coming from one who occupies his distinguished position. These addresses are throughout marked by an elevated spiritual tone as far removed as possible from Erastianism or from mere worldly wisdom. The Archbishop's, as we note with special satisfaction, insists upon the fact that the moral regeneration of society can only be attained by supernatural grace—not by mere humanitarian schemes, however admirable. That the Chief Pastor of the Province of Canterbury should have so clearly and unmistakeably taken his stand on so sound a basis is distinctly a subject for thankfulness.

Messrs. Bosworth and Co., of Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury, have published an *Altar Service Book*, being the ordinary text of the Church of England services used at the altar, without variety or alteration. In size it is super-royal 8vo—perhaps a little too small. It has been most tastefully and admirably printed at the Chiswick Press, in red and black, in old type—with black-letter portions and large capital letters. In arrangement, clearness of type, and general appearance it leaves nothing to be desired; and it is most creditable that such a book should have been issued by a private firm. As a present to a church—handsomely bound—nothing could be more appropriate or more welcome. We recommend it most cordially to our readers' attention.

We have before us a number of pamphlets and tractates of various kinds bearing upon the General Election; and we are glad to find that so excellent a use of the press as a means of disseminating political truth has been made by the Tory party. Among these pamphlets the first place must be given to a penny reprint of the *Speech of the Marquis of Salisbury at Newport*, and a similar issue of the *Speech of the Marquis of Salisbury at Brighton* (Simpkin, Marshall, and Co.). The Bishop of Peterborough's *Address* to his Diocesan Conference has been published as a penny tract by the Church Defence Institution as well as by the S.P.C.K. The latter Society have also issued a useful tract, *Hear the Other Side*, by the Rev. J. T. Lockwood. It states the truth about Disestablishment and Disendowment simply and intelligibly. Messrs. W. Hunt and Co. are the publishers of ten admirable papers by the Bishop of Liverpool. Dr. Ryle is well known as probably the most effective of living tract writers. These *Disestablishment Papers* are the very best we have met with for general circulation. They are short, terse, vigorous, plain, and to the point, and their cost is only threepence a dozen. Sir John Conroy's lecture, *Church Property not National Property* (S.P.C.K.) completely demolishes the preposterous fallacy that underlies Liberationist pretensions. *"Down with It!"* (*Home Words* Office) is a useful penny tract by the Rev. G. A. Sowter, which we can recommend. *Ad Clerum* (London Literary Society) is a seasonable appeal to the clergy as to their duty at the present political crisis. Dr. Belcher has published the first of a series of discourses, entitled *Aggressive Defence* (W. Knott). His text is most properly the Eighth Commandment. It is a relief to find things called by their right names, and Dr. Belcher rightly brands Church robbers as thieves. We wish that so excellent a sermon could be preached in every church in the kingdom. In *The Church on Its Trial* (Wells Gardner and Co.) the Rev. J. R. O. West effectively sums up the case between the well-known Church Defence manual, *The Englishman's Brief on Behalf of His National Church*, and the Liberationist reply, *The Case for Disestablishment*. The Rev. Morris Fuller's pamphlet, *The Alleged Tripartite Division of Tithes* (T. Bosworth and Co.) is a learned, and as we think successful, attempt to prove the legal right of the beneficed clergy to their tithes, in opposition to the allegation that they have no equitable claim to more than one-fourth, or at most one-third, of the tithes. Mr. Fuller's opinions are endorsed by Dr. Stubbs, Dr. Freeman, Dr. Bright, and other high authorities. On the specific issue of the education question we can cordially recommend a penny tract addressed to working-men, entitled *All is not Gold that Glitters* (Catholic Truth Society), by the Rev. Father Splaine, S.J., who points out with admirable force the certain consequences of a Board school monopoly. Disestablishment in Scotland is satisfactorily dealt with, of course from a Presbyterian point of view, by Mr. R. A. M'Fie in *A Letter of an Heritor in a Country Parish* (Edinburgh: Macniven and Wallace). It is a noteworthy sign of the times that a strict Presbyterian should praise Roman Catholics for their Education policy.

Hints to Country Bumpkins (Hatchards) ably exposes some Radical falsehoods on the Land question, and reminds electors of some wholesome truths concerning the late Government; but the matter is not very well arranged. The section on "Our French Politicians" is the best, though perhaps rather over the head of an average "bumpkin." *A Short Address to the Two Millions of New Voters* (W. Blackwood and Sons) thoroughly exposes the Radical fallacy of "the Big Loaf," the hollowness of the boasts in which *pseudo*-freetraders have been wont to indulge, and the baseless character of Mr. Gladstone's claim to be considered a great financier. *Bill Hodge's Letter to John Bull* (Longley) takes the right side; so does Mr. Turnerelli's *Woe or Weal?* and both may be useful in the approaching struggle.

A really useful tractate is that by "A Whig" on *The New Conservatism* (H. K. Lewis, Gower-street). The writer appeals to the Whig electors to sever their connection with the Socialistic Radicals—a tie which has nothing to justify it but an irrational adherence to the common party name of Liberal—and to attach themselves to modern Conservatism, the true party of progress. The writer supports his position by extracts from the writings of Buckle and Mr. Herbert Spencer on the evils of meddlesome legislation, and by the authority of Mill and Fawcett on political economy. None of these writers carries the least weight with Tories like ourselves; but that is all the more reason for cordially welcoming the aid of sensible Liberals such as the author of the essay before us.

Mr. John Bray's *Facts for the New Electorate* (E. Stanford) furnishes exactly the kind of information likely to prove useful to candidates and others engaged in delivering Conservative election addresses. With great force Mr. Bray points out the injurious operation of our system of free imports, wrongly styled "free trade," and the dishonest manner in which so-called freetraders persist in attributing to the action of their wretched nostrum benefits really arising from the introduction of steam-power. No better antidote could be found for the reckless abuse heaped on the new Royal Commission on Trade by Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Bright than Mr. Bray's little work.

Equally forcible and well put is the argument contained in a small shilling book, *The Curse of Cobden*, by Mr. S. Buckingham Pope (W. Blackwood and Sons). We have never read anything more convincing, and Mr. Pope is eminently proficient in the "art of putting things." He shows how the hackneyed phrases of freetraders are contradicted at every point by the direct evidence of the senses, and indicates the real danger of Free Trade, Free Breakfast-tables, and Free Education being supplemented by just one more—Free Starvation.

What may be expected to happen in England if the theories of our modern Jacobins are carried into practice is depicted by Mr. W. A. Watlock in *The Next 'Ninety-Three; or, Crown, Commune, and Colony* (Field and Tuer). In the form of "a citizen's diary" commencing on September the 10th, 1893—the date of the Equable Distribution of Property Act coming into force—the author shows us some of the results of Socialist legislation. He himself receives an acre and a half of what chances to be a very fair cornfield, with several hens and a share of a cow, and part of a cottage, for all of which he pays the Commune as rent four hours' work a day. A friend of his who is not popular with the Mayor has for his allotment partly a pond and partly a bit of what was formerly a branch railway-line. The United Kingdom of Ireland is governed by thirty-eight absolute kings, including King Charles I., King Timothy I., and King Justin. The Mayor of the Commune and his friends take good care to seize for their own use the furniture from the Hall: the wine is taken to the Communal cellars "for the benefit of the Commune." Our readers will gather from these details a general idea of this cleverly written "skit," which we cordially recommend as conveying, though in a humorous manner, a much-needed warning.

A less ambitious venture of the same kind, by "An ex-M.P.," is entitled *A Radical Nightmare* (Field and Tuer), in which is described the state of affairs forty years hence, when Socialist Republicanism is supposed to have completely triumphed in England, and to have reduced the country to utter ruin, *The New Democracy* (Sampson Low and Co.) is a story in which under the guise of relating the adventures of a shipwrecked traveller in the country of Caucusia, the author severely criticises modern Radical theories of government.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

Fay o' Fire described as "a romantic opera in two acts," libretto by Henry Herman, music by Edward Jones, was produced at the Opera Comique on Saturday last, and met with a favourable reception from a large audience.

Mr. Randolph Caldecott has just arrived in the United States, whither he has gone to sketch for the *Graphic*. Mr. Caldecott has never before visited America, and it will be interesting to note the impressions he receives from a new country.

The Glasgow Choral Union will commence a twelfth series of choral and orchestral concerts on Tuesday, December 8, with *The Rose of Sharon*, conducted by the composer, Mr. A. C. Mackenzie. The remainder of the concerts will be conducted by Mr. A. Manns. There will be thirteen concerts in all, four choral and nine orchestral, extending over a period of ten weeks. In addition there will be the usual ten Saturday Popular Concerts, which have always been so attractive. Besides Mackenzie's work, the new cantata by Dvorák, *The Spectre's Bride*, will be included in the choral concerts. The orchestral selections will comprise a number of the more important novelties, in addition to standard compositions of the classical masters. The programmes are most attractive, and there is therefore no fear that the ardent love for the best music which distinguishes the Glasgow people is likely to languish for want of the necessary provision which shall support and strengthen that love.

Mr. William Westall, the author of *Red Rivington*, *Ralph Norbreck's Trust*, &c., has written for *Cassell's Saturday Journal* a story entitled "Two Pinches of Snuff," the opening chapters of which will appear early in December. The scene of the story is laid in Manchester and Dresden.

The report of the Executive Committee of the Festival of the Three Choirs of Worcester, Hereford, and Gloucester, held at Hereford in September, has been issued, and is more satisfactory as regards its charitable object than had been anticipated. The total receipts at the Cathedral doors for the clergymen's widows and orphans were £990 7s. 5d., which is in advance of the receipts of the previous Hereford Festival in 1882. The receipts and payments on account of the undertaking, however, show an adverse balance of £536, the receipts for sale of tickets having been £3,018 and the payments £3,554. The deficiency has been made up by the stewards, each of whom guarantees £5, only one-half of which guarantee is called for. Some of the stewards, however, have intimated their intention to pay their full £5, the balance being handed over to the charity. Next year's Festival will be held at Gloucester.

Professor E. B. Cowell and Mr. R. A. Neil are bringing together a collection of early Buddhist legends, edited from the Nepalese Sanskrit MSS. in Cambridge and Paris. *The Divyâvadâna* is to be its title. The book will be issued by the Cambridge University Press.

Archdeacon Farrar's lectures in America on Dante and Robert Browning are awakening some interest. Of Dante Archdeacon Farrar says:—"The three greatest poets are Æschylus, Dante, and Milton, and the greatest of these is Dante. You may wonder at my apparent forgetfulness of Shakespeare; but I venture to say that the world will have another Shakespeare before it has another Dante. He combined all that was great in the poets that had gone before him, and he excelled all that followed him. Of Browning, Archdeacon Farrar says:—"He has given not a book, but a literature, and to have studied and understood him, I say, deliberately, is a liberal education of itself. I do not know of any poet, except Shakespeare, in whom you will find so marvellous a portrait gallery. He brings jewels from the East and West, from nature and art. History is his plaything, psychology his electric spark. I know of no poet more learned, exact, or thorough. He builds his poems out of rough blocks of marble. He is obscure only in the sense that his thoughts are profound. I think many of Browning's nature paintings will take precedence of many of Tennyson's. Browning is didactic, as nature is didactic. He is essentially a poet of humanity. He does not destroy; he is a worker in fine metals, a moulder of the passions of men's minds. He thinks at full speed."

A historical bell is used at the Théâtre Français in *Don Juan d'Autriche*—none other than one which in 1572 gave the signal for the massacre of St. Bartholomew from the Tower of Saint-Germain l'Auxerrois. That church posaessed three, but during the Revolution they were taken down and sold, being purchased by an ironfounder named Flambon. He subsequently sold the smallest to the comedians of the Théâtre Français for the first representation of *Edouard en Ecosse*, by Alexandre Dumas, in 1801.

Among the rarities lately acquired by the trustees of the British Museum there is an interesting drawing, in pen and bistre, by Michael Wolgemuth (1434-1519), to whom Albrecht Dürer was, on St. Andrew's Day, 1486, duly apprenticed as a *Formschneider*. The design is the original study for the illustration on the verso of folio one of the *Nuremberg Chronicle*, by Hartmann Schedel. The date of the drawing is 1490, and the subject represented is the eternal Father in the act of benediction.

The Berlin Academy has just published, from a papyrus, fragments of Aristotle hitherto unknown, on the State institutions of Athens from the time of Solon, and referring especially to the reforms effected by Cleisthenes.

Professor Albert Heim, writing in the *Alpenzeitung*, says that, judging from phenomena observed during the last few years in the snow regions of the Alps of Switzerland, a steady increase in the snow and a subsequent early advance of the glaciers had been fully expected. This had actually taken place in the Western Alps, but the indications of the summer just passed are of the same nature as they were in 1865, the masses of snow having decreased considerably everywhere. In the St. Gothard range, on the Tödi, and the surrounding mountain chains Professor Heim found during the past season that the snow had retreated, even as compared with 1884. This has had unpleasant consequences. Pastures which formerly were moistened by the water issuing from small snowfields during the summer months have been dried up. Springs formerly fed by snow water have disappeared. The areas bared of snow and glacier are now stony deserts, which will be changed to pasture land only after the lapse of many years. Depressions in the snow formerly easily crossed have been turned into dangerous glacier passes. In many places, where formerly the snowfield closely joined the rocks there are now dangerous chasms, and both glaciers and snow beds, having become thinner, are more intersected than ever. Looking down from the summit of the Tödi on August 16, Dr. Heim was greatly struck by the dirty gray colour of the surrounding snowfields, in contrast to their dazzling whiteness of former years. This, Dr. Heim says, is the result of the continual melting of the snow and the concentration of particles of dust on the surface of the melted layers. Extensive slopes which formerly remained constantly covered by snow are now completely free from it. It is therefore considered probable that the growth of the glaciers of the Swiss Alps will take a long time, for it must first be preceded by an accumulation of snow in the snowy regions.

Few people are probably aware of the great engineering undertaking, in which Russia has been engaged for years, of draining the Pinsk marshes. These are so extensive as to secure special designation on the ordinary map of Europe, being, says *Engineering*, we believe, the only case of the kind; and, in point of area, are very much larger than Ireland. Situated on the Russo-Polish confines, they have become famous in Russian history as a refuge for all manner of romantic characters, and have remained an irreclaimable wilderness in the midst of a prosperous corn-growing region up to within the last few years. In 1870 the Russian Government first took in hand seriously the abolition of this wild expanse, which, owing to being perpetually more or less submerged and covered with a jungle growth of forest, prevented not only communication between the Russian districts on either side, but also between

Russia and Austro-Germany. Consequently, a large staff of engineering officers and several thousand troops were drafted into the region, and these have been engaged on the undertaking since. Up to the present moment about four million acres have been reclaimed, thanks to the construction of several thousand miles of ditches and of canals so broad as to be navigable for barges of several hundred tons' burden. Just now the engineers are drawing up the programme for next year, which comprises the drainage of 350,000 acres by means of the construction of 120 miles of ditches and canals. Of the four millions acres already reclaimed, 600,000 acres consisted of sheer bog, which have been converted into good meadow land, 900,000 acres of "forest tangle," which have been prepared for timber purposes by cutting down all the underwood and thinning the trees, 500,000 acres of good forest land—forest oases in the midst of the marshes—hitherto inaccessible, but which have been connected more or less with navigable canals and thereby with the distant markets, and finally 2,000,000 acres have been thrown open to cultivation, although only 120,000 acres have been actually occupied up to now. Besides making the canals and ditches, the engineers have built 179 bridges, bored 152 wells from 40ft. to 80ft. deep, and 425 from 20ft. to 40ft., and have made a survey of 20,000 square miles of country hitherto unmapped. When their task is finished, Russia will have effaced from the map of Europe one of the oldest and toughest bits of savage nature on the Continent, and a few years will suffice to render the Pinsk marshes undistinguishable from the rest of the cultivated region of the sources of the Dnieper. From an engineering, geological, and scientic point of view, generally, the work is one of special interest, and capable globe-trotters, anxious for a novel theme, might do worse than spend a few months amid the fading Pinsk marshes, describing the changes in progress.

"TORY OR RADICAL?"

Tory or Radical?—How Shall I Vote? is the title of a vigorously written pamphlet, printed for private circulation, by the Rev. Dr. F. G. Lee, Vicar of All Saints', Lambeth. The writer expresses his preference for the matured wisdom of our ancestors to the too often-adopted and palpable folly of our contemporaries:—

"We know what that accumulated wisdom has secured for us, even this—'Church and Queen,' with our present vast Empire on which the sun never sets. What may be the issue of the annual tinkering and undermining of the Constitution, at the instigation of every selfish and self-seeking fadmonger, we know not. Possibly rapid dry-rot in the nation, and in some approaching day of danger its eventual and sudden collapse."

In spite of the depression of trade, the Radical cry is "Overturn, overturn!"—"Security is thus duly undermined, while the horizon of politics begins to look more than ever threatening. Even now many fold their hands, and do nothing. 'The national concern, I hope, may last my time,' they maintain. 'Posterity must take care of itself.' Hence the unpatriotic apathy and cowardly indolence of so many. Spirit, energy, and zeal are thus too often relegated to the noisy revolutionists and destructives, who at least possess the single merit of knowing their own minds. As to destruction, and that said to be specially in contemplation by Radicals—the overthrow of the Church of England—I well remember the late Lord Beaconsfield (then Mr. Disraeli) remarking in my hearing that he would rather see London occupied for six months by the troops of a foreign Power than witness the disestablishment and disendowment of the National Communion. Here were statesmanship and patriotism. Here was true political wisdom. For the Established Church, founded on certain unalterable Christian principles, should be maintained at all hazards. A form of national government without religion is an anomaly, and unworkable. Even Pagan and savage nations uphold various religions, and in most of these some perfectly true elements of God's original Revelation may be found. I am one of an increasing number who, while deploring the fact that the Tudors so cruelly abolished the ancient faith and wickedly destroyed spiritual authority, hope and pray that the Almighty may mercifully allow their perfect restoration once again to our divided and sect-cursed nation. I trust, moreover, that it is not a deadly sin to prefer the venerable religion which built our Cathedrals and churches to those dismal and repulsive forms of misbelief which marred and destroyed them; and which—before our very eyes, and as the direct logical consequence of their existence and method of self-pleasing—are now practically united for the simple purpose of securing the triumph of Atheism in the House of Commons in the person of its noisiest and nastiest advocate.

"In opposition to the Church and to Christianity stand out the Board schools. Their principle altogether ignores God and is a disgrace to England. A system of Atheistic education, most probably Satanic in its origin, is certainly disastrous in its operation. It can only end in distinctly weakening, and eventually casting out, the Christian Religion—an enormity for which Almighty God will surely punish us as a nation, 'Free schools perfectly secular,' now forming part of the accepted Radical programme, will of course hasten that deplorable catastrophe."

After alluding to the Divorce Court set up by the Liberals, and to their attempts to weaken the Christian Law of Marriage, Dr. Lee concludes:—

"The Radicals being furthermore in favour of the abolition of oaths, and the propagation of blasphemy, smallpox, Atheism, and other filthy diseases both physical and moral; the disendowment of the National Church, the overthrow of the Monarch and the House of Lords, the confiscation of landed and funded corporate property, and the bitter antagonism of all classes, I earnestly advise you to withstand so dangerous a policy by every lawful means in your power. Ask yourself, at the same time, this rational question—What ancient nation, in its senses, not intoxicated with strong political delusions, ever entrusted the administration of its affairs to the least responsible of its citizens—to those, in plain terms, who had nothing and knew nothing?

"Vote, therefore, for the candidate—anxious to draw all classes together for the well-being of the nation—who is in favour of fearlessly examining the causes of the decay of British commerce, and who does not intellectually grovel before the fetish of 'one-sided Free Trade.' Vote for the man who will uphold our ancient Constitution, and not for the hungry Radicals, waiting to benefit by some general scramble, and anxiously looking forward to fatten undisturbed on the body-politic of England.

"And do not only thus vote yourself. But by word and deed get others to follow your good example—thus aiding to uphold and maintain the Crown, the Church, and the Empire. What we as Englishmen now possess, in owning authority, religion, justice, and Imperial rule, is apparent to all; for by these, rich and poor, high and low, are directly blessed and benefited. What random change, rude legislation, and violent destruction may soon directly effect none can predicate nor predict.

"Vote, therefore, for the Tory candidate."

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. A. T. Allin, Curate of West Alvington, to Vicarage of Holbeton. Patron, the Crown.

Rev. W. Appleford, to be Chaplain at Tours.

Rev. G. O. Balleine, to Rectory of Weyhill, Hants. Patrons, Queen's College, Oxford.

Rev. T. W. B. Bartlett, to Vicarage of Kempston, Norfolk. Patron, the Earl of Leicester.

Rev. D. G. Clarke, to Rectory of Puttenham, Surrey. Patron, the Crown.

Rev. R. F. Cory, to Vicarage of Terrington St. John, Norfolk. Patron, the Crown.

Rev. W. Davis, to be Junior Curate of Mistley-cum-Bradfield.

Rev. J. Evans, Curate of Llanllar, Cardiganshire, to Rectory of Jordanston. Patron, Lady Hamilton of the Plâs, Llanstephan.

Rev. C. W. Fowell, to Vicarage of Corton.

Rev. H. J. S. Gray, to be Chaplain at Bengal.

Rev. J. Henry, to Rectory of Sampford-Spinney.

Rev. J. H. Hodgson, Minor Canon of Winchester Cathedral, and Chaplain of the Royal Hants County Hospital, to Rectory of St. Swithin's, Winchester. Patron, the Lord Chancellor.

Rev. J. H. F. Hope, Chaplain of St. Kenelm's School, to be Public Preacher in the Diocese of Oxford.

Rev. J. O. Johnston, Chaplain to the Oxford Female Penitentiary, to Vicarage of All Saints', Oxford. Patrons, Lincoln College.

Rev. D. Jones, Curate of Ystradgynlais, Brecon, to Vicarage of Ystradfellty, Brecon. Patron, the Bishop of St. David's.

Rev. E. D. Kershaw, Domestic Chaplain to Lord Lamington, to be Domestic Chaplain to Earl De La Warr and Buckhurst.

Rev. W. Law, to be Minister of Holy Trinity, Latimer-road, Notting-hill.

Rev. J. G. Lloyd, Vicar of Wiston, Pembrokeshire, to Vicarge of Clarbeston, Pembrokeshire, by dispensation. Patron, the Lord Chancellor, by lapse.

Rev. J. W. Mangin, to be Curate-in-Charge of St. Michael's, Torquay.

Rev. H. McCririck, to Vicarage of Hempnall, Norfolk. Patrons, the Trustees.

Rev. W. T. Melrose, to Vicarage of Dearham. Patron, the Rev. W. B. Christian.

Rev. G. O. Pardoe, to Vicarage of Hinton Admiral, Hants. Patron, Sir G. E. M. T. Jervis Meyrick, Bart.

Rev. J. Parry, Senior Curate of Rotherham, Yorkshire, Association Secretary of the Church Pastoral Aid Society, South-eastern District.

Rev. H. M. Patch, to Vicarage of Coggeshall. Patron, Sir Charles Du Cane, K.C.M.G.

Rev. J. T. Phipps, to be Chaplain at Wormwood Scrubbs Convict Prison.

Rev. C. F. Powys, to Vicarage of Montacute.

Rev. T. Pugh, Curate of Llansadwrn-with-Llanwrda, Carmarthenshire, to Perpetual Curacy of Gwynfe. Patron, the Vicar of Llangadock.

Rev. A. C. Radcliffe, to Rectory of Stoke Charity. Patrons, Corpus Christi College, Oxon.

Rev. W. N. Ripley, Honorary Canon of Norwich Cathedral, Rector of Colney, to Vicarage of Earlham-with-Bowthorpe annexed, Norfolk, by dispensation. Patron, Mr. Frederick Bacon Frank, of Campsall, York.

Rev. B. Robinson, to be Chaplain of Uxbridge Union.

Rev. C. L. Sanctuary, to Vicarage of St. Thomas's, Salisbury.

Rev. A. G. K. Simpson, to Vicarage of Shipbourne.

Rev. J. P. Stephenson, to Rectory of Nately Scures. Patron, Mrs. H. A. Pigott, Carlton.

Rev. J. E. Surridge, to Rectory of Dodbrooke. Patron, the Rev. Hans Atkinson.

Rev. H. M. Todd, to Rectory of St. Paul's, Silloth. Patron, the Vicar of Holme Cultram.

Rev. J. White, to be Chaplain of Newent Union Workhouse.

Rev. J. H. Wilcockson, to Vicarage of Christ Church, Weston Point.

Rev. D. Williams, Rector of Merthyr, Carmarthenshire, to be Rural Dean of the Rural Deanery of Carmarthen.

Rev. G. N. Wilmer, to Perpetual Curacy of Norbury. Patron, Mr. William John Legh, M.P.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF ST. ALBANS.—Revs. John James Beddow, to St. Stephen's, Walthamstow; Richard Henry Marsh, M.A., to St. Saviour's, Walthamstow; Walter Edward Minchin, to Holy Trinity, Lyonsdown.

LICENCE TO CURACY BY THE BISHOP OF SALISBURY.—Rev. Robert Stewart Kedgell Blucke, M.A., to Fontmell Magna.

OBITUARY.

On All Saints' Eve, at Trovarth Vicarage, Abergele, North Wales, the Rev. T. Evans Jones, M.A.

Nov. 5, at the Vicarage, the Rev. Richard Longfield Davies, M.A., Vicar of East Drayton and Rector of Stokeham.

Nov. 11, at 71, Euston-square, the Rev. Samuel Danby, B.D., for twenty-two years Vicar of Weston-by-Welland, aged 62.

Nov. 13, the Rev. Eardley Wilmot Michell, late Vicar of Shirley, Derbyshire, aged 72.

Nov. 13, at Tunstall Rectory, Sittingbourne, George Bridges Moore, Rector of Tunstall, aged 76.

Nov. 14, at Cheltenham, the Rev. Samuel Edward Bernard, M.A., youngest son of the late David Bernard, of Jamaica, aged 85.

Nov. 15, at Amberd, Bournemouth, the Rev. John Dixon, M.A., late Rector of Hoo and Letheringham, aged 61.

Nov. 15, at the Vicarage, Dorchester, Oxon, the Rev William Charles Macfarlane, M.A., for twenty-nine years Vicar of the Abbey Church of SS. Peter and Paul, Dorchester, aged 69.

Nov. 16, at Dinham Hall, Ludlow, the Rev. Charles Kent, for forty seven years Vicar of Ludford, and for forty-two years Perpetual Curate, afterwards Vicar, of Elton, aged 79.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

The supplement to the *Gazette* on Wednesday contained a notice dissolving the Convocations of Canterbury and York, and ordering writs to be issued for electing new members. The writs are to be returnable on the 13th of January next.

The Bishop of London will consecrate the new church of St. John the Baptist, Great Marlborough-street, Regent-street, at eleven o'clock on Monday.

The Rev. the Earl of Mulgrave left England on Thursday to resume the honorary chaplaincy of the church of All Saints at San Remo.

The Bishop of St. Albans on Wednesday morning consecrated the new church of St. Michael and All Angels, Walthamstow, of which Mr. Gladstone laid the foundation stone. It has been erected mainly at the cost of the Bishop of St. Albans' Fund and Mr. R. Foster. The church, a handsome building, has been noteworthy for the way in which the working people, adults and children, have given manual labour in its erection.

The Archbishop of York has appointed the Right Rev. John Mitchinson, D.D., late Bishop of Barbados and coadjutor of the Bishop of Peterborough, to act as suffragan Bishop for the diocese of Manchester during the vacancy in the see. In accordance with the Archbishop's commission, Bishop Mitchinson will, in the interim, perform all episcopal functions in connection with the diocese.

Bishop Ellicott last week consecrated Christ Church, Barton-hill, the second of the six churches commenced under the Bristol Church Extension Commission. It contains 650 sittings. His Lordship preached on the occasion from the words, "I know Thy works" (Rev. ii. 2).

The Wednesday divinity lecture at St. Olave's, Jewry, was resumed by the Rev. George Davenport, vicar of St. Mark's, Whitechapel, this week. It will continue to be given every Wednesday at the same hour, except during the months of June, July, August, and September. It will be preceded by a shortened form of the evening service. The subject of each lecture will be duly announced beforehand on a board outside the church.

An attempt was made yesterday week at Canterbury Cathedral to force open two alms-boxes, one in the nave and another in the south aisle. Failing in that, the thieves tried to cut one away, but were disturbed.

On Sunday morning there was a grand military service at York Minster. The Lord Mayor and Corporation, the City and High Sheriffs were present, and the congregation numbered nearly seven thousand. The service was magnificently rendered, the united bands assisting in the accompaniments.

Stepney Church was last week reopened after restoration under the supervision of Mr. Basil Champneys. Internally much additional light is admitted by four new clerestory windows over the south aisle and two on the north side of the chancel. Three stained-glass windows have been inserted in memory of Lieutenant Charrington, R.N. The sermons were preached by the Bishop of Bedford and Canon Cadman.

The Bishop of Salisbury on Saturday consecrated the church of St. John the Evangelist, Heatherlands, Kinson-heath, Dorset. The patronage has been vested by deed of agreement in Lord Wimborne and his heirs, a liberal contributor to the endowment fund, and patron of the mother parish. A district will shortly be assigned by Order in Council to the church.

A three-light window has been placed in St. Paul's, Charlton, as a memorial to Canon Pritchett, by his widow.

The *Salisbury Journal* reports the first sermon by Bishop Wordsworth at his Cathedral on Sunday afternoon week. There was a very large congregation. His Lordship took for his text, "Cast thy burden upon the Lord and he shall sustain Thee." Having stated that the words translated "thy burden" were rendered in the margin "That he hath given thee," he went on to say that that seemed to him to be a fuller meaning of the words. And surely it was a most comfortable and simple lesson for all of us, particularly for those, who, like himself, were just beginning a new and laborious duty. "Cast thy burden back upon the Lord, remembering that it is a gift to thee, and remembering Who hath given it to thee." Surely it was no slight comfort to think that our burden was a gift from God.

The Bishop of Lincoln on the 11th inst. went to the little village of Ulceby-with-Fordington, near Alford, for the purpose of reopening—after interior restoration—the church of All Saints', and of consecrating some additional burial-ground given by the rector to the parish. Unfortunately, persistent rain made this first visit of a Bishop to the parish for many generations a less enthusiastic affair than it would otherwise have been. His Lordship, assisted by his chaplain, celebrated the Holy Communion at 8.30, and after Matins had been sung, preached a striking sermon from Zech. iv. 1-3. He was afterwards entertained at a public luncheon, and in replying to the toast of his health, spoke of the evils that would follow from the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church in country villages, and of the critical character of the forthcoming General Election. It is believed that his visit will be a greater help to Church defence than the distribution of many leaflets.

A statue of the Queen has just been placed in a niche reserved for it on the west front of Lichfield Cathedral. The figure, which is an excellent likeness of Her Majesty, was executed at the request of the Dean of Lichfield, and with the Queen's permission, by her Royal Highness the Princess Louise. The Queen is represented in mediæval costume, the headdress being a veil falling over the back of the head, with a diadem encircling the forehead. The Queen holds a sceptre in her right hand and an orb in her left. This statue of Queen Victoria adds an historical interest to the restoration of the west front, as connecting that great work with the Sovereign in whose reign it has been accomplished.

A lady living at Calverley, Yorkshire, has given a donation of £6,000 to the Church Missionary Society.

Yesterday week, at a meeting of the committee of the Anglo-Continental Society, which was held at 19, Delahay-street, the Bishop of London was elected a patron and vice-president, the Bishop of Chester a member of the Book Committee, the Bishop of Salisbury one of the Episcopal Referees, and General Lowry, Archdeacon Meade, and Canon Turnock members of the General Committee. A vote of thanks to the Marquis of Bristol for the use of his house for a meeting in behalf of Italy was passed, and a vote of sympathy with the relatives of the late Rev. C. R. Conybeare, who had been very active in behalf of Count Campello and Mgr. Savarese. A legacy of £200 from the late Mrs. Latham was ordered to be invested. The report announced that there were at present three Old Catholic priests at Rome, for whose support £300 had been transmitted to Italy. The Old Catholics in Switzerland were being hard pressed by the newly-appointed Roman Catholic Bishop of Basel; £100 had been sent to help them in the training of their theological students. The Austrian Old Catholics were showing vigour, and £25 had been sent towards the maintenance of one of their clergy. To the German Theological College at Bonn £10 had been sent for one of the students, and £35 to a fund for which Bishop Titcomb had made an appeal.

A Church Army Conference was held last week at the Leeds Church Institute, the Bishop of Ripon in the chair. In opening the proceedings Bishop Carpenter dwelt earnestly upon the leading principles which should guide the work they were engaged in, illustrating them by references to the life of our Lord. There should be a reverence for Providence, remembering that Providence leads but does not carry us. With all zeal and enthusiasm for work let there be sound judgment, overstraining not mind or body, a firmness of purpose, but allied to gentleness, cultivating a sense of sympathy with demands made not only upon their time but upon their thoughts. The Rev. F. S. Webster said that the marches and processions might not suit those accustomed to the quiet, stately, cultured service of the Church; but there were thousands outside that influence who could only be reached by the freedom, the noise, the unmusical music of the army. The scavenger's cart was not a pleasant object, but it cleaned our streets. The Rev. W. Carlile gave some facts, showing the success of the army and the support it had received among the working classes, and several officers mentioned incidents from their experience in the work.

The native Church of Sierra Leone, as represented by the pastors of its several parishes, has requested that two English clergymen may be sent to conduct special Missions in the colony. The subject had also been much upon the heart of the Bishop, who in conversation with the Rev. F. W. Dodd and the Rev. G. W. Darwin Fox, secretary of the Church Parochial Mission Society, at the end of last year, had expressed his conviction that such a Mission, if the native Church were itself to see the need of it, would largely tend to raise the tone of Christian life among the people. When, therefore, a special call came to these two clergymen, through those to whom the selection had been intrusted, the committee of the society gladly allowed them to accept it. They left England on the 7th; Mrs. Darwin Fox accompanying them with a view to work among the women.

The quarterly board of the Tithe Redemption Trust was held last week at the offices, 9, Bridge-street, S.W. In the unavoidable absence of Lord John Manners, M.P., the chair was taken by Mr. E. Chisholm Batten. A cheque for £20 was drawn in the case of Bamford, diocese of Southwell. Since the Trust was established in 1846, tithes have been added to the parochial income of the Church amounting to £126,510 3s. 9d. a year.

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, preaching at Christ Church, Bristol, last week, said:—"Within the past few weeks very great questions had been raised. Changes once thought to be far in the future had been brought into prominence, and they must recognise plainly that controversy was beginning. Though the attempts that might be made to sunder bonds that never ought to be sundered might be deferred to some more convenient season, there could be still very few who doubted that days of testing and of trial were silently approaching. The question came home to everyone, What is our duty at times like these? Two answers might obviously be given. One, that we should put forth every energy, adopt all ordinary means by which serious changes were to be averted, trust entirely to the efforts and to the organisations that might be made within, array ourselves for the conflict, and entertain no doubt or fear of the future. But there was another course, and that he thought was a higher and a holier one, and it was to regard the time as a time of solemn probation, as the hour when the Lord was drawing nigher to know and prove the works of our National Church, and to prepare ourselves to stand the test, the test of those eyes which were as flames of fire. We did this from no false fear; we did it that we might stand before the Son of God, as far as a Church might stand before those eyes, comparatively blameless. Two changes were specially and urgently needed. The first was the abolition of all traffic in livings, and in the giving away of the great trusts connected with the livings. The abolition of the traffic, which had become more and more a scandal to every true Churchman, must be brought about. The evil had been surveyed, considered and acknowledged, and yet the remedy was not yet come. And why? Not from any want of effort on the part of the Church, but because it had been judged that the rights of property were so far involved that no exceptional legislation, as it had been termed, could be safely entered on, and so effort after effort—honest and earnest—had been frustrated; but he thought it would not be so much longer. He felt that the deep truth that livings, the gift of benefices, were solemn trusts, was entering into the heart of every godly person in the nation, and he did not doubt that the great and serious reformation and change would be carried with the consent of every earnest and godly person. The second change was of a very momentous nature, and it was a clear recognition of the rights of the Christian laity. In parts of the Church at large a very responsible step had been taken. Ere long there would be associated in some measure, and in such adjustment as might be deemed rightful, a body of laymen who would share in the councils of the Church, and would add their godly voices to their Houses of Convocation. This was the first and very hopeful sign, and he believed this House of Laymen would be summoned when the next year might break on the Church. But there was a clear recognition needed of the rights of the laity in our churches generally and in their administration—more defined powers. Changes, as they knew, were introduced perfectly arbitrarily. Congregations who attended the ministrations had no part or voice in them, and so it had happened that hundreds had been left out and had left their parish church; had been forced, as it were, to break that which was our strength—the parochial bond, because they had no part in the changes which they profoundly deprecated. Now that could not be for the good of any Church. There must be some clear recognition of the rights of the laity, carefully and wisely drawn; but it must be and it was one of the needed and earnest changes of the present time. If the hardship was not so much felt in great cities, grievous were the trials when this happened in the country churches; when alienation took place from arbitrary changes either this way or that way; when the church clustered among the trees, the church of our fathers, the church where the silent and sleeping 'forefathers of the hamlet' rested, was disturbed by arbitrary changes. and because the

rights of the laity had not been duly considered. He believed this change would come. He believed everywhere there was a deep feeling that our Christian laity, always so helpful in times of need, must be recognised to have their rightful voice. He was persuaded that this was being felt more and more amongst the ministerial ranks. There were a hundred signs around that the mother Church of England was taking a foremost place among the Churches of the world. Her missionary labours and widespread congregations might well remind us that the love of God and Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit rested on the mother Church, and that she would not be wanting in the time of trial."

A correspondent, "W. H. C. M.," observes :—

"As comparatively few persons know it, let me state what the claim and scheme of the Liberation Society is. I give it in their own words :—

"'13. Both ancient and modern buildings, as well as all endowments now appropriated to the use of the National Church, must be regarded as national property at the disposal of the State. It would not, however, be consonant with public feeling to act strictly on this principle, however logically defensible. It may therefore be assumed that in the disposal of the property now devoted to religious uses regard will be had to the voluntary origin of many recent churches and endowments.

"'14. With such exceptions as may be determined on, the Cathedrals, Abbeys, and other monumental buildings should be under national control, and be maintained for such uses as Parliament may from time to time determine, &c.

"'17. All churches existing at the date of the passing of the first of the Church Building Acts (1818) should be deemed to be ancient parish churches.

"'18. Ancient churches (as defined in sec. 17) should be vested in a parochial board, to be elected by the ratepayers (that is a *quasi* school board), "which board should have power to deal with them for the general benefit of the parishioners in such ways as it may determine. The power of sale at a fair valuation and under proper regulations should also be given." (See *The Case for Disestablishment*, pp. 178 and 179).

"The Liberation Society will not be content with Disestablishment without Disendowment. They combine the liberation of the Church from State control with robbery of her property. They say :—

"'The third loss which the Church of England will sustain by Disestablishment is that of the public property by which it is now maintained. Disendowment is necessarily involved in Disestablishment' (see p. 134). 'It is a question open to argument whether or not the Church shall be disestablished, but whether, if it be disestablished, it shall also be disendowed, is not a question open to dispute' (see p. 68)."

The Rev. A. Highton writes :—

"The discussion of the Disestablishment and Disendowment question has brought one fact into useful prominence—namely, that the Church of England is not a corporation, and as a Church holds no property. Each parish is a separate corporation, and holds property as such in trust for certain purposes in that parish. If any complaint be made, or dissatisfaction felt, at the way in which this trust property is administered, the proper business-like way to proceed would surely be for Government to appoint Comissioners, similar to the Charity Commissioners, to examine and take evidence upon each trust, before proceeding to any action therein. If any abuses of trust property are found to exist, let them be remedied, as abuses of trust property have been remedied before. If change of times and circumstances have brought about a necessity for changes in the administration of old trusts in their true spirit, let these changes be made by proper authority. But to treat all the individual corporations as if they were one sole corporation is to proceed on false lines. I do not think many parishes would be found desirous of having *their own church* trust funds made away with for secular uses."

The Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement, Building, and Repairing of Churches and Chapels held its usual monthly meeting, the first for the present session, on Thursday last, at the Society's offices, 2, Dean's-yard, Westminster—the Rev. C. F. Norman in the chair. There were also present Archdeacon Harrison, the Revs. Canon Cazenove, Canon Erskine Clarke, C. A. Jones, and Canon T. W. Perry, Lieut.-Col. the Hon. G. H. W. Windsor Clive, Messrs. John Boodle, J. F. France, J. G. Talbot, Edward Thornton, and Rev. R. Milburn Blakiston, Secretary. Grants of money were made in aid of the following objects—viz., Building new churches at Milton, in the parish of Kewstoke, near Weston-super-Mare, £60 ; Tottenham, St. Mary, Middlesex, £300 ; and Upton Cross, St. Paul, in the parish of Linkinhorne, near Callington, Cornwall, £80 ; enlarging or otherwise improving the accommodation in the churches at Abergorlech, near Carmarthen, £40 ; Acton, All Saints', near Sudbury, Suffolk, £40 ; St. Anne's-on-the-Sea, Lancashire, £50 ; East Budleigh, All Saints', Devon, £125 ; Great Burstead, St. Mary, near Billericay, Essex, £25 ; St. Decuman's, near Bridgwater, £35 ; Flempton, St. Catherine, near Bury St. Edmunds, £25 ; Nantcwnlle, near Talsam, Cardigan, £50 ; Swansea, Old St. John's, £50 ; Llangadock, Carmarthen, £50 ; Llangranog, near Llandyssul, Cardigan, £20 ; and Torpoint, St. James, near Devonport, Cornwall, £50. Grants were also made from the Special Mission Buildings Fund towards building school or mission churches at Gateshead, St. Cuthbert, £40 ; Lenham, St. Edmund's, near Maidstone, £30 ; and Hammersmith, Holy Innocents, £50.

THE COURT.

Divine service was conducted at Balmoral Castle on on Sunday by the Rev. A. Campbell, of Crathie, in the presence of the Queen, the Royal Family, and the Royal Household.

The Rev. A. Campbell had the honour of dining with the Queen and Royal Family.

The Queen, accompanied by Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, and Princess Frederica of Hanover, and attended by the Dowager Marchioness of Ely, the Hon. Ethel Cadogan, Sir Henry Ponsonby, Sir John M'Neill, Major Edwardes, Mr. Sahl, and Dr. Reid, arrived at Windsor from Balmoral on Wednesday morning shortly before 9 o'clock. The station and approaches were kept quite private. The Queen and Royal party at once drove to the Castle, the Queen's carriage being escorted by the equerries. There were not many persons in the street to witness the arrival, but the town was flagged, this being the first visit of Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg to Windsor since their marriage. At two o'clock in the afternoon a Council for the purpose of dissolving Parliament was held at the Castle in the presence of the Queen. Lord Salisbury, Lord Cranbrook, and Lord George Hamilton, accompanied by Mr. Lennox Peel, Clerk of the Council, were present. A considerable crowd of people assembled at the station to see the Ministers arrive, and heartily cheered them. The Ministers returned at four o'clock, bringing with them Her Majesty's proclamation for the dissolution of Parliament, which was at once sent to the Crown Office to receive the Crown seal.

Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales gave a county ball at Sandringham House on the evening of yesterday week. Prince Albert Victor, Prince George, and Princess Louise of Wales were present. Signor Curtis's band was in attendance, and played an excellent selection of dance music. In addition to the numerous party of guests staying at Sandringham, a large number of ladies and gentlemen had the honour of receiving invitations to the ball.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Queen, who had promised to drive through Windsor and Eton with Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg, left the Castle at noon on Thursday, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses, and proceeded through the streets, which were gaily decked with flags, the bells ringing merrily. The Queen and Princess Beatrice, who received a most cordial welcome during their progress, very graciously acknowledged the salutations of the residents and visitors.

The sudden death, on Thursday morning, is announced at his residence in London of Sir William Rose, Clerk of the Parliaments. He was born in 1808, and married in 1856 Sophia, daughter of Lord Rendelsham. He was deputy-lieutenant for Buckinghamshire, and a justice of the peace for Suffolk, and held the post of Deputy-Clerk of Parliaments from 1848 to 1875, when he was appointed clerk. He was brother to Lord Strathnairn, who died a short time ago.

The death is announced of Mr. Anton Herman Jamrach, at the age of 44, at his residence, 355, East India Dock-road, Poplar. The name of this naturalist and importer of wild animals is known all over the world.

The promoters of the sixpenny cab service for Birmingham are now turning their attention to London. They propose to start an enterprise which will revolutionise the metropolitan cab service. In the first place they have decided to supersede the antiquated "growler" with a new four-wheel vehicle, which has already received the approval of the Scotland-yard authorities. The principal feature of it will be that the back part will let down, thus making an open carriage, while the luggage is placed on the top of the front. The whole of London will be supplied with improved Forder cabs, and it is also proposed to run large numbers of victorias for the use of ladies going shopping or visiting. It is estimated that about 500 of these vehicles will be put on at the West-end. About 4,000 cabs will altogether be provided. There will be depôts in all parts of London.

A knighthood has been conferred upon Dr. James Sawyer, an eminent physician of Birmingham, in recognition of his services to the medical profession and his long connection with the Birmingham Queen's Hospital. He is President of the Midland Branch of the British Medical Association and of the Birmingham Clinical Board.

Count Nigra, having been appointed Ambassador at Vienna, has left for Rome on his way to Vienna, and will return to England in a few weeks to present his letters of recall. During his Excellency's absence M. Catalani has taken the direction of the Embassy as Chargé d'Affaires.

On Friday, the 13th inst., on returning to Drove from Goodwood House in a pony carriage, the Earl and Countess of Mayo met with a somewhat serious accident. While descending the hill from the racecourse the pony stumbled and fell over, and the Earl and Countess were both thrown into the road. Lord Mayo escaped unhurt, but her Ladyship, who was thrown on her head, was severely shaken, besides being contused and cut about the face. Medical aid was at once obtained from Chichester, and according to the last report her Ladyship is going on favourably.

The cases of "Adams *v.* the Hon. Bernard Coleridge" and "Adams *v.* Lord Coleridge" came on for hearing on Monday before Baron Pollock and Justices Manisty and A. L. Smith in the Queen's Bench Division, and resulted in a settlement. A discussion, however, ensued as to the terms of reference to Lord Munster, who had been appointed to act as the arbitrator, to state what sum, if any, should be paid to Mr. Adams as damages in the acknowledged libel. These were, by the intervention of the Court, arranged ; it being understood that if the arrangement were not carried out Mr. Adams could renew his application to set aside the judge's order staying all proceedings. In the course of the proceedings Sir Henry James stated that Lord Coleridge was most anxious to carry out his agreement, under which Mr. and Mrs. Adams would have a life interest in £600 a year, and £17,000 would be settled on their children, should they have any.

Vice-Admiral Graham has been appointed by Lord George Hamilton Controller of the Navy. He entered the service on August 24, 1842, and was appointed mate of the *Hydra* in 1849, when he was promoted to the rank of lieutenant for bravery. Subsequently he served in the Black Sea, was made a commander in 1858 for war services in China, became captain in 1866, and was created a C.B., 2nd June, 1877, having previously received a good service pension. On the 1st of February, 1879, he was made a Rear-Admiral, and held the post of Superintendent of Malta Dockyard from 1881 to 1884. Promoted to the rank of Vice-Admiral 29th April, 1885, Admiral Graham was late in the same year appointed chairman of the departmental committee which has been inquiring into the present system of dockyard management.

The will of the late Right Rev. James Fraser, D.D., Bishop of Manchester, has been proved in the Manchester District Court of Probate, the personalty being sworn under £85,549. The document, which was executed in June of last year, is exceedingly brief, extending over six folios only. The Bishop appoints Mrs. Fraser, the widow, sole executrix. To his three nephews, the sons of Captain Fraser (who was killed during the Indian Mutiny), he leaves the sum of £6,000 each. To the two sons of his brother Major-General Fraser he also leaves the sum of £6,000 each, and to the children of a nephew £1,000 each upon their attaining the age of 21. He desires that the service of plate presented to him on the occasion of his marriage by the clergy of his diocese shall, after the death of his widow, become an heirloom of the diocese of Manchester. The remainder of his property he bequeaths to Mrs. Fraser for her sole use.

A very attractive bazaar was opened in the Townhall, Kensington, on Tuesday afternoon, in aid of a building fund for a parish room and new infant schools at St. James's Church, Norlands, to complete the purchase of the fine organ recently erected in St. Gabriel's Church, and to liquidate the long outstanding debt on the parish church expenses fund of St. James's. The bazaar was favoured with the patronage of her Royal Highness the Princess Louise, Lady Penrhyn, Lady M'Garel-Hogg, Lady Harriet Ashley, Lady Borthwick, Lady Lethbridge, and many other ladies well known in Kensington. The thirteen tastefully-ornamented stalls were crowded with useful and ornamental articles, amongst which those suitable for Christmas presents found a considerable place. In addition to performances by the fine band of the St. George's Rifles, the programme on each of the three days during which the bazaar was open included vocal and instrumental concerts, conjuring performances, and a variety of other entertainments always to be found at gatherings of this kind.

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon on Wednesday took the oaths of office as Secretary of State for Scotland in the Court of Session at Edinburgh, and afterwards held a reception, which was attended by the principal public bodies.

The Queen has received at Balmoral with much concern the news of the death of Mrs. Pitcaithly, the faithful and devoted nurse of Her Majesty's grandchildren, the Princesses of Edinburgh, for whom the Queen had the greatest regard. Mrs. Pitcaithly expired after a short illness at Eastwell, on Sunday, the 15th inst. Her loss is irreparable to the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh, and to the children, with whom she has been for ten years and a half.

We have to announce the death of Frances Louisa Lady Somerville, which occurred at her residence, in Granville-place, Portman-square, at half-past twelve on Wednesday morning. The deceased lady, who was the only daughter of Mr. John Hayman, was married, 3rd September, 1833, to Kenelm, seventeenth Lord Somerville, who died 19th October, 1864.

SAVE IN YOUR HOUSEKEEPING.—Potatoes, fruits, and vegetables at wholesale prices. 70lb. potatoes (cook like balls of flour), 14lb. carrots, 14lb. onions, 14lb. turnips, the lot only 5s. 9d. Also 112lb. floury potatoes 5s. 6d. Choice American dessert or cooking apples per bushel 5s. 9d., per ½ barrel 10s., per barrel 18s. Fruit price list, post free. All carriage paid. Cash on delivery. Will keep four months. The Direct Supply Company, 31, Customs Chambers, St. Dunstan's-hill, London, E.C.

Mr. Arthur Balfour, President of the Local Government Board, on Tuesday, at the Leeds and County Conservative Club, unveiled a portrait of Lord Randolph Churchill, by Neumans. Mr. Balfour remarked in the course of his address that among his other higher qualities Lord Randolph possessed the power of influencing, by his words, great masses of his countrymen ; and he possessed the power of quick and prompt decision, and decisive action taken upon that decision. In all those qualities which commanded success in the House of Commons not less than on the political battle-field, Lord Randolph stood pre-eminent over all men of his (Mr. Balfour's) acquaintance ; and it was to that quality—that eloquence on the platform—that he owed his present public position. Besides, he had the invaluable gift of genius so peculiar to a Democratic age—the gift of inspiring with confidence and affection vast masses of his fellow-countrymen. The result was that they were confidently looking forward to his career being in the future what it had been in the past—namely, one of the most brilliant and remarkable which had adorned the annals of England.

Mr. H. Herkomer, R.A., the Slade Professor of Art at Oxford, delivered his opening lecture in the Sheldonian Theatre on Wednesday afternoon. The subject was "Sight and Seeing." He said that seeing was not sight, but understanding ; and understanding involved knowledge and the storing up of facts and images in the mind. But this knowledge would be useless unless accompanied by the capacity of receiving new impressions. Art was the result of seeing with a privileged mind through the trained eye. The Professor referred to the portrait he had painted of Wagner. He had never had a sitting properly so-called, but only a month's seeing. Tired out at last, he determined to try what his memory would do to furnish him with a face only inwardly visible. At last he got a sitting, and found he had only to make a slight correction in the drawing of the ear, and of the outer angle of the chin. He must confess, however, that, although the work looked bright, there was nothing positively natural or correctly drawn. The picture was a compromise. He proposed to give talking and painting lectures. He intended to paint heads from nature in the presence of an audience selected from that attending the talking lectures, and to accompany his work with a kind of running commentary. This he could not carry out until he returned from America in the spring.

A recent *Bulletin* of the United States Fish Commission contains the following interesting account of the destruction of young trout by mosquitoes :—"In the middle or latter part of June, 1882, I was prospecting on the head-waters of the Tumichie Creek, in the Gunnison Valley, Colorado. About nine o'clock in the morning I sat down in the shade of some willows that skirted a clear but shallow place in the creek. In a quiet part of the water, where their movements where readily discernible, were some fresh-hatched brook or mountain trout, and circling about over the water was a small swarm of mosquitoes. The trout were very young, still having the pellucid sack puffing out from the region of the gill, with the rest of the body almost transparent when they would swim into a portion of the water that was lighted up by direct sunshine. Every few minutes these baby trout—for what purpose I do not know, unless to get the benefit of more air—would come to the surface of the water, so that the top of the head was level with the surface of the water. When this was the case a mosquito would light down and immediately transfix the trout by inserting its proboscis, or bill, into the brain of the fish, which seemed incapable of escaping. The mosquito would hold its victim steady until it had extracted all the life juices, and when this was accomplished, and it would fly away, the dead trout would turn over on its back and float down the stream. I was so interested in this before unheard-of destruction of fish that I watched the depredations of these mosquitoes for more than half an hour, and in that time over twenty trout were sucked dry and their lifeless bodies sent floating away with the current. It was the only occasion when I was ever witness to the fact, and I have been unable by inquiry to ascertain if others have observed a similar destruction of fish. I am sure the fish were trout, as the locality was quite near the snow line, and the water was very cold, and no other fish were in the stream at that altitude. From this observation I am satisfied that great numbers of trout, and perhaps infant fish of other varieties in clear waters, must come to their death in this way ; and if the fact has not been heretofore recorded, it is important to those interested in fish culture."

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending Nov. 14 was—medical 920, surgical 425; total 1,345, of which 442 were new cases.

EPPS'S COCOA.—GRATEFUL AND COMFORTING.—"By a thorough knowledge of the natural laws which govern the operations of digestion and nutrition, and by a careful application of the fine properties of well-selected Cocoa, Mr. Epps has provided our breakfast tables with a delicately-flavoured beverage which may save us many heavy doctors' bills. It is by the judicious use of such articles of diet that a constitution may be gradually built up until strong enough to resist every tendency to disease. Hundreds of subtle maladies are floating around us ready to attack wherever there is a weak point. We may escape many a fatal shaft by keeping ourselves well fortified with pure blood and a properly nourished frame."—*Civil Service Gazette.*—Made simply with boiling water or milk. Sold only in packets, labelled—"JAMES EPPS and Co., Homœopathic Chemists, London."—Also makers of Epps's Afternoon Chocolate Essence.

"laden with the scent of flowers,
And breath of odorous spring."

SPINNER'S TEA.—A company of merchants are now selling through Spinner & Co. the choicest teas that come from India and China in packets only. Prices 1s. 8d., 2s., 2s. 4d., and 2s. 8d. a pound. These are the perfection of teas, and will please the most fastidious.—Agents wanted in every town and village. For terms, apply to Spinner & Co., 60, Strand, London.—SPINNER & CO., London and Liverpool.

MESSRS. FRY AND SONS are daily receiving numerous testimonials from the medical profession speaking in high terms of their Pure Concentrated Soluble Cocoa. Sir Charles Cameron, M.D., President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, says :—"I have formed a high opinion of its value. It is especially adapted to those whose digestive organs are weak, and I strongly recommend it as a substitute for tea." Ask your grocer for a sample of this delicious Cocoa.

CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities. In the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council it has been distinctly stated that the old sponge filters are of no avail for purifying water. These filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest ANIMAL CHARCOAL, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited), 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read, 'Water : its Impurities and Purification." Price 6d.

BIRTHS.

Oct. 20, at Kurrachee, the wife of Captain WALTER BEVILLE, Scinde Commission, of a daughter.

Nov. 8, at Gurteen le Poer, Kilsheelan, the Hon. Mrs. DE LA POER, of a son.

Nov. 10, at Rickinghall Superior, Suffolk, the wife of the Rev. ARCHDALE PALMER WICKHAM, of a son.

Nov. 12, at the Vicarage, Foxbury, near Hungerford, the wife of the Rev. ALFRED G. LAWE, M.A. of a daughter.

Nov. 12, at 24, Woodstock-road, Bedford-park, the wife of GEORGE CRUICKSHANK, of a son.

Nov. 12, at Malpas Rectory, the wife of the Rev. the Hon. WILLIAM TREVOR KENYON, of a son.

Nov. 13, at 15, New Market-street, Wigan, the wife of the Rev. C. J. BUCKMASTER, of a daughter.

Nov. 16, at Doublebois, Cornwall, the wife of the Rev. EDWARD STEELE, Vicar of St. Neot's, of a daughter.

Nov. 16, at Petworth, the wife of the Rev. CHARLES AUBREY DURRANT, M.A., of a daughter

MARRIAGES.

Oct. 15, at St. Matthew's, Quebec, HENRY CONNELL, youngest son of J. N. BENNETT, Esq., of Plymouth, to MARIA ST. MAURICE, only daughter of the Rev. J. B. SHATTUCK, B.A., of Postbridge, Lydford, Devon.

Nov. 7, at Holy Trinity, Bessborough-gardens, EMILIE ANNE, eldest daughter of the late W. W. Carus-Wilson, of Casterton Hall, Westmorland, and widow of the late Rev. T. W. TALBOYS, to Captain W. MORSE, War Office.

Nov. 11, at St. Lawrence, Downton, Wilts, Rev. ALFRED MONTAGUE WALKER, M.A., Vicar of North Elmg, Hants, third son of William Newman Walker, F.R.C.S. Eng., of West Brighton, to AGNES CAROLINE TURNER, second daughter of the Rev. C. Beresford Turner, B.A., late Vicar of North Elmg.

Nov. 12, at the parish church, Dawlish, ALFRED EDWARD CUNINGHAME, son of the late Sir PERCY ARTHUR CUNINGHAM-FAIRLIE, Bart., of Robertland, county Ayr, to ARABELLA ANNIE, only daughter of the late FREDERICK CHURCH, Esq.

Nov. 12, at St. Andrew's, Walcot, Bath, JOHN FREKE EVANS, LL.D., son of the late Eyre Evans, Esq., of Ash Hill Towers and Milltown Castle, Ireland, to CHARLOTTE MAITLAND, fifth daughter of the late Rev. GILES PUGH, Vicar of Shapwick, and formerly Chaplain to the British Legation at Naples.

Nov. 14, by special licence, at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, JAMES W. MALCOLM, eldest son of the late James Malcolm, of Harland House, Caithness, N.B., to EVELYN ALBERTA, third daughter of ALBERT SANDEMAN, of Moncorvo House, Ennismore-gardens.

DEATHS.

Nov. 12, at Brooklands, Weybridge, the Hon. PETER JOHN LOCKE KING, aged 74.

Nov. 12, at Lansdowne Lodge, Dublin, ELIZABETH DOROTHEA, wife of General Sir WILLIAM JONES, K.C.B., Colonel 1st Battalion Duke of Cornwall's Light Infantry, and daughter of the late John Tuthill, Esq. County Limerick.

Nov. 13, at 7, East Castle-road, Edinburgh, Harriet, widow of the Rev. D. T. K. DRUMMOND, Incumbent of St. Thomas', Edinburgh, aged 84.

Nov. 14, at 15, Circus, Bath, Captain ROBERT MACFARLANE HAMMOND, younger son of the late Rev. John Hammond, Rector of Priston, near Bath, in the 62nd year of his age.

LATEST NEWS.

PARIS, Nov. 20.

The statements published this morning by a London paper in regard to the alleged designs of the French in Madagascar are semi-officially declared to be purely conjectural. It is added that the French Government has not yet taken any resolution on the subject of Madagascar, and that its attitude will depend upon the decision about to be pronounced by the Chamber. The French troops who recently arrived at Tamatave merely serve to replace the men who have been sent home.

ALGECIRAS, Nov. 20.

The Spanish corvette *Navarra* left here yesterday for Tangiers, where she will to-morrow embark the members of the Moorish Mission to Spain. The Spanish Minister to Morocco will accompany the Mission.

LISBON, Nov. 20.

Senhor Assumpcao has been appointed Minister of Justice, and Senhor Thomas Reibeiro Minister of Public Works. These portfolios had been for some time past held *ad interim* by the Minister of the Interior and the Premier.

TZARIBROD, Nov. 20.

The Servian defeat near Slivnitza is attributed to tactical and strategical mistakes on the part of General Jovanovitch. A fresh attack will be made upon Slivnitza to-morrow by four Servian divisions. Colonel Topalovitch, with the Servian right wing, is within an hour's march of Sophia.

BELGRADE, Nov. 20.

The following official bulletin was issued here last last night:—"Pirot, Nov. 17, 7 p.m.—Our troops yesterday attacked Slivnitza, and were repulsed. On account of the bad weather the attack cannot immediately be renewed."

M. Garashanin, in pursuance of orders from the King, left at midnight by special train for Pirot. A feeling of depression prevails here.

The Powers who have up to the present replied to the Servian Note are England, Russia, and Turkey.

SOPHIA, Nov. 19, Evening.

The Servians this morning attacked the Bulgarian right wing near Slavinye, but were repulsed and forced to retire for a distance of eight kilometres. In the afternoon the Servians opened a strong artillery fire from their right wing. The Bulgarian troops stoutly defended their positions and again repulsed the Servians, who had brought three battalions of infantry, one battery of artillery, and a squadron of cavalry into action. Victory finally rested with the Bulgarians. At Glintzi the Servian troops have also suffered a reverse, the Bulgarians taking several prisoners. Fifty Servian prisoners have arrived here. The Bulgarian officers and soldiers have displayed great bravery in the recent engagements.

The Servian Legation in London has received the following official telegram from Belgrade, dated 1.10 p.m. Thursday:—

"The reports that our troops have attacked Slivnitza, and that they have been repulsed, are false. On the 17th the Bulgarians attacked our left wing, and, favoured by a thick fog, succeeded in approaching our positions; but after very sharp fighting were repulsed. Our right wing attacked, the same day, the Bulgarian entrenchments at Slavinye and drove the Bulgarians from their advanced positions. Our losses 500 killed and wounded. Yesterday morning we undertook a reconnaissance in the direction of Slavinye. After two hours' engagement, our troops returned to their position. Colonel Topalovitch, yesterday, between Breznik and Pernik, fought with two companies against two Bulgarian battalions who menaced his flank. The Bulgarians left 100 dead and wounded. We took sixty prisoners.—Signed, "GARASHANIN."

The most complete accord is reported by the Calcutta correspondent of the *Standard* to exist between England and China with regard to the Burmese question. It is expected that when the English Expeditionary Corps reaches Mandalay King Theebaw will quit his capital, and, sooner or later, attempt to cross the frontier into China. It is understood that orders have been issued to the Chinese troops in the frontier towns not to allow the Burmese Monarch to find refuge in the Celestial Empire.

Additional details with regard to the capture of the town and fort of Minhla state that the Kuligon column, under Colonel Baker, consisting of the 1st Madras Infantry and the 2nd and 11th Bengal Infantry, landed on the western shore to attack the place. Little opposition was anticipated, but the Burmese offered a most determined resistance after the surrender of Kuligon. The *Irrawaddy* and *Kathleen* moved up the river, close to the western bank. Suddenly two masked batteries in Minhla town and a number of riflemen opened fire on them. A smart artillery duel took place, the Burmese fighting their guns with much determination, although the range was very short. Minhla was accidentally fired by the shells directed at the battery in the town, and was burnt down. The western column had to storm several villages and stockades, and the fighting lasted over three hours. The *Kathleen* was nearly destroyed by the explosion of a ruined barge, which was fired by Europeans, believed to be Italians.

The enclosed letter has been sent to the chairmen of the Conservative committees in the various metropolitan constituencies:—

"*Carlton Club, Nov.* 19, 1885.

"Dear Sir,—In view of the incalculable importance of the approaching General Election, we venture with the utmost respect, but with all earnestness, to appeal to you to lose no opportunity, either by special circular or otherwise, of impressing upon those members of our party who at this season of the year are usually absent from the metropolis, the vital and imperative necessity of making such arrangements as may enable them without fail to record their votes in their respective metropolitan boroughs, and of using all such legitimate influence as they may possess with a view to ensuring that the Tory party, in the coming contest, may poll every man, and secure that due amount of representation in the new Parliament to which their numbers entitle them.—We are, your obedient servants, M. E. HICKS-BEACH, W. H. SMITH, RANDOLPH S. CHURCHILL."

SOCIETY.

A marriage has been arranged between Mr. Arthur James and Miss Venetia Cavendish Bentinck.

Also between Mr. E. Cavendish Howe Browne and Miss Rachel Brett, youngest daughter of the late Colonel Brett, 17th Lancers.

Also between Mr. I. Hicks Graves, only surviving son of the Rev. J. Graves, of Bradenham Manor, Bucks, and Miss Mary Tempest, only daughter of Sir Robert Tempest, Bart., of Tong Hall, Yorks.

Also between the Rev. G. F. E. Shaw, rector of Edgeworth, Gloucestershire, and Miss Katherine Hope, daughter of the late Major-General Frederick Hope.

The marriage of Mr. James Malcolm and Miss E. Sandeman, third daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert Sandeman, was solemnised on Saturday afternoon, by special licence, at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge. Amongst those who witnessed the ceremony were the Master of the Rolls and Lady Esher, the Dowager Lady Inchiquin and the Hon. Miss O'Brien, Sir Thomas Dyer, Lady Tierney, Sir Augustus and Lady Stephenson, Lady Jessel, Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. D. Ward, and Mr. Audrey Lowell. Mr. Sandeman gave his daughter away. The bride's dress was of rich white satin duchesse, with squaee train, elaborately trimmed with old point lace. Her ornaments were diamonds. There were six bridesmaids, who were attired in costumes of white silk, trimmed with lace, tulle veils, and wreaths of white flowers. The officiating clergy were the Rev. R. Stewart, vicar of All Saints', Ennismore-gardens, assisted by the Rev. J. Ramsay L'Amy, and the Rev. R. Rouse.

The marriage of the Earl of Dysart and Miss Florence Newton, daughter of Mr. G. O. Newton, of Croxton Park, Cambridgeshire, took place in St. Barnabas Church, Pimlico, on Thursday morning, in the presence of their nearest relations and many personal friends. Mr. Frank Mason, cousin of the bridegroom, was the best man, and there were six bridesmaids—namely, the Hon. Eva Hanbury Tracy, cousin of the bridegroom, Miss Aileen Conolly, Miss Paston-Cooper, Lady Constance Vaughan, Miss Hilda Burnaby, and Miss Florence Cochrane, cousins of the bride. The bride's train was held by her two little brothers, Masters Douglas and Denzil Newton, who were in Highland costume. The officiating clergy were the Rev. William H. E. M'Knight, M.A., rector of Silk Willoughby, Sleaford; the Rev. Richard T. West, M.A., incumbent of St. Mary Magdalene, Paddington; and the Rev. Samuel L. A. Cooper, M.A., rector of Croxton, St. Neots. The service was full choral, and the bride was given away by her father. After the ceremony the company went to Claridge's Hotel, where Mr. and Lady Alice Newton entertained the wedding party at breakfast. Among the guests were Jane Duchess of Marlborough, Maria Marchioness of Ailesbury, the Earl of Dundonald, the Earl and Countess of Lisburne, the Countess of Lindsey and Lady Mary Bertie, Viscount and Viscountess Wolseley, Lord Vaughan, Lady Huntingtower, Lord and Lady Westbury, Lady Wynford, Lord and Lady Sudeley, Lady Laura Grattan, Lady Mount Temple, Mr. and Lady Agnes Tollemache Scott, Mr. and Lady Lucy Silber, Hon. Mrs. Craven Berkeley, Hon. Frederick Lawless, Hon. Hamilton and Mrs. Tollemache, Hon. Algernon and Mrs. Tollemache, Hon. Frederick Tollemache, Hon. Thomas Cochrane, Sir George and Lady Dallas, Sir Astley and Lady Paston-Cooper, Colonel and Mrs. Conolly, Colonel Ryan, Captain E. Bourke, Mrs. Owen Williams, Mr. Arthur Tollemache, Mr. Denzil Onslow, Mr. Mason and the Misses Mason, Mr. and Mrs. A. Portman, Mrs. Ernest Tollemache, Mr. Lionel Cust, Mrs. Schuster, Mr. Frank Schuster, and Mr. R. Cochrane and Miss Cochrane. At half-past two o'clock the Earl and Countess of Dysart left for Helmingham Hall, Suffolk, lent by Lord Tollemache for the honeymoon.

The marriage of the Rev. George Arbuthnot, Vicar of Stratford-on-Avon, eldest son of the late Mr. G. C. Arbuthnot, of Mavisbank, Midlothian, with Miss Margaret Evelyn Luckock, eldest daughter of Canon Luckock, of Ely, took place on Thursday at St. Stephen's, Southwell-gardens. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. T. T. Carter, Hon. Canon of Christchurch, assisted by Canon Lowe, D.D., of Ely. The service was fully choral, and an address was given by Canon Carter. The bride's train was carried by her two little brothers as pages, and she was followed by eight bridesmaids—viz. Miss A. Luckock, Miss A. Arbuthnot, Miss J. Meridale, Miss Cunningham, Miss Mary Burns, Miss Augusta Abraham, Miss Beatrice Luckock, and Miss Evelyn Arbuthnot. Mr. O. J. Kilvington was the best man. Canon and Mrs. Luckock afterwards entertained upwards of seventy relatives and friends at breakfast in Bailey's Hotel. Among them were Sir William and Lady Arbuthnot, Mrs. Arbuthnot, Mr. and Mrs. Thompson, of Thingwall, Commander and Mrs. C. Arbuthnot, Mr. and Mrs. James Arbuthnot, Mr. and Mrs. John Burns, the Hon. L. Neville, Colonel the Hon. W. Carington, Mr. T. G. Luckock, and the Hon. M. Ponsonby. The wedding presents numbered over 200, including a cheque for £1,000 from Mr. Thompson, the bride's grandfather. Mr. and Mrs. George Arbuthnot are leaving England for Rome and the Riviera.

The marriage of the Rev. Frederick Mortimer Harvey, M.A., rector of Bolnhurst, St. Neot's, Beds, with Miss Katherine Dorothea Parker Jervis, eldest daughter of the late Mr. Edward J. Parker-Jervis, of The Pyrehill, Stone, Staffordshire, took place recently in St. Peter's Church, Bournemouth. The bride, who was led to the altar by her grandfather, the Hon. Edward S. Parker-Jervis, was attired in a dress of white corded silk, made with a long train, and trimmed with old point lace and real orange blossoms, her plain net veil being fastened with pearl and diamond crescent brooches, and she carried a lovely bouquet, the gift of the bridegroom. She was attended by her three sisters and her half-sister as bridesmaids, they wearing costumes of cream canvas trimmed with yak lace, and white straw hats trimmed with cream velvet and shaded violets, a bouquet of Parma violets being also placed on the bodice of the dress. The bridegroom presented each with a twisted gold and platinum bangle. The Rev. G. Stopford Ram, M.A., vicar of St. Peter's, officiated, the bride being given away by her grandfather. Only the immediate relatives of both families were present on the occasion, among whom were Mrs. Locker, the Misses Gertrude, Amy, and Annie Parker-Jervis, Miss Locker, Mr. E. St. V. Parker-Jervis, Miss Parker-Jervis, Miss Harvey, Miss A. Harvey, Mrs. T. S. Parker-Jervis, Mr. Atkinson, Mrs. Mainwaring, the Rev. L. St. V. and Mrs. Ricketts, Miss Barker, &c. After breakfasting with their friends, the rev. gentleman and his bride left for the New Forest, where they will pass the early days of their honeymoon, the bride wearing a travelling costume of brown Indian cashmere trimmed with silk and beaver, brown bonnet with pale blue aigrette, and jacket and muff *en suite*.

THE ELECTIONS—JANUARY TO NOVEMBER, 1885.

It has been our custom for many years to publish in our first issue in January an account of the elections of the preceding year. As, however, Parliament has been dissolved this week, and as a new Parliament will be elected in the course of the next fortnight, we anticipate our usual custom, and to-day give our statement of the results of the elections from the commencement of the year to the end of the Parliament. The elections during the past ten months have not been very numerous, but with the single exception of county Antrim, where there was a Conservative loss, they have shown evidence of a considerable increase in the voting strength of the Conservative party, notably in the case of Wakefield, where a seat was rescued from the hands of the Radicals. We trust this is a good omen for the contests which will commence next week.

TIPPERARY COUNTY.—On resignation of Mr. P. J. Smyth (HR):
Jan 9.—J. O'Connor (HR)

SOMERSETSHIRE, MID.—On resignation of Mr. W. S. Gore Langton (C):
March 3.—J. K. D. W. Digby (C)

GLOUCESTERSHIRE, WEST.—On resignation of Colonel Kingscote (R):

March 10.—B. St. J. Ackers (C)		4837
	Sir J. Marling (R)	4826

GLASGOW CITY.—On resignation of Mr. Geo. Anderson (R):
March 11.—T. Russell (R)

ANTRIM COUNTY.—On the death of Mr. J. Chaine (C):

May 21.—W. P. Sinclair (R)		3971
	Hon. R. O'Neill (C)	3832

DENBIGHSHIRE.—On death of Sir W. W. Wynn (C):
May 23.—Sir H. L. W. W. Wynn (C)

DEVON, N.—On Sir S. Northcote (C) being raised to the Peerage:
July 1.—J. C. Moore Stevens (C)

EYE.—Mr. Ashmead-Bartlett (C) having accepted office:

July 1.—Ashmead-Bartlett (C)		473
	M. L. Hawkes (R)	336

LAUNCESTON.—Sir H. Giffard (C) being appointed Lord Chancellor:

July 1.—R. E. Webster (C)		417
	W. Pethick (R)	374

WAKEFIELD.—On death of Mr Mackie (R):

July 2.—E. Green (C)		1918
	W. H. Lee (R)	1661

WOODSTOCK.—On Ld. Randolph Churchill's (C) acceptance of office:

July 3.—Lord R. Churchill (C)		532
	C. Grant (R)	405

DOWN COUNTY.—On Lord A. Hill's (C) acceptance of office:

July 8.—Lord A. Hill (C)		5097
	J. S. Brown (R)	4696

LINCOLNSHIRE, N.—On Mr. Winn (C) being raised to the Peerage:

July 10.—H. J. Atkinson (C)		4052
	Sir H. M. Thompson (R) ...	2872

AYLESBURY.—On Sir N. M. de Rothschild (R) being raised to the Peerage:

July 16.—Baron F. de Rothschild (R)		2353
	W. Graham (C)	1416

It may be interesting to add that since the General Election in 1880, the Conservatives have gained 21 seats, the Radicals 6, and the Home Rulers 1, viz.:—

	Conservative Gains.	Radical Gains.	Home Rule Gains.
1880 ...	8 ...	1 ...	—
1881 ...	6 ...	1 ...	—
1882 ...	1 ...	1 ...	—
1883 ...	2 ...	2 ...	—
1884 ...	3 ...	— ...	1
1885 ...	1 ...	1 ...	—
	21	6	1

The following has been widely circulated among the Irish electors:—

THE HISTORY OF "THE HATS."

Irishmen! Read this account of what has been subscribed to the different "Hats" sent round by the so-called Nationalists.

Dr. Kenny, Testimonial (for compensation for 3 months' imprisonment as a suspect) ...	£1,000
Father Sheehy do. do. do. ...	1,500
Mr. Healy, M.P., services in Parliament, in Wexford £500, Monaghan £1,000	1,500
Messrs. Harrington and Sullivan, M.P.'s, £300 each for two years	1,200
Mr. Sexton, M.P., do., last year	350
do. this year (in progress) to date	800
Mr. O'Kelly, M.P., last year	300
do. this year	500
Messrs Lalor and O'Connor, last year and this year	600
W. O'Brien, M.P. (to pay law expenses of about £1,000)	8,000
E. D. Gray, M.P. (amount fine for contempt of court)	500
Parnell Testimonial	40,000
Sundry small collections for suspects—fully ...	2,500

Just think of it. £58,750! You subscribed this! Have you got value for your money? The Parnellites preach about the spending of money in Ireland. How much of this have they spent in our country, where t was subscribed?

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

NEW ACROSTIC RULES.

A Prize of One Guinea is given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics that appear in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on November 7, 14, 21, and 28.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competitions so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic, addressed to the ACROSTIC EDITOR of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length.

Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 1.

(NINTH MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

1. F aki R
2. O ctavi A
3. G hibert I
4. S ido N

Solutions have been received from Hampton Courtier, Vertumnus, Alcyone, Camensis, Chavernes, The Owl, Sunset, Fare-thee-well, Hadji, Felix, M.A.E.B., Mike, Chelmsford, S.M.F., Ketha, Alias, Pansy, Land o'Nod, Paddy, Senga, Two Countesses, L.E.L., Whaup, C.B.A., Quandary, B.V., Pegasus, Waddles, Magnet, Viz, Raby, S.O.F., Todcat, Bijou and Co., Peewit, A Casual, Random Shot, Widdy Machree, R.O., Culverin, Bios, and Titwillow.

The alternatives to Light 3 given by Camensis, Alcyone, Hampton Courtier, Widdy Machree, Pegasus, Whaup, Pansy, and Hadji are accepted.

ACROSTIC, No. 4.—The pleadings in favour of Leghorn have been very carefully examined, but the Editor is unable to alter his decision. Only Luton perfectly fits the light. Everything that is said in favour of Leghorn might equally be urged on behalf of London. The Editor agrees with the many correspondents who have pointed out the strong objections to accepting Leghorn as a correct answer.

The July Prize has been won by
Mrs. Bryans,
23, The Lees,
Folkestone (A Casual).

SEPTEMBER TIES.—Correct solutions to Acrostic No. 6 were received from Allspice, Etak, Iris, and Persevere. Hadji and M.A.E.B. fell out of the competition.

Allspice, Etak, Iris, and Persevere all send correct solutions to the present Acrostic, and remain competing.

MONTHLY LIST FOR OCTOBER.

1. Dresden, Tilly Slowboy, Alcyone, Culverin, Pen, James Crow, Roy, Kiku, Whaup, Cave Lupum, Mops, Meta, and Two Countesses.
2. Pansy, Tim, and R.O.
3. Felix, The Owl, Chelmsford, Random Shot, Noremac, Conjecture, Noryb, Waddles, Camensis, S.O.F., Quandary, Vertumnus, and Pegasus.
4. Alias, Chavernes, Hampton Courtier, Todcat, Senga, Tit-willow, B.V., and Magnet.
5. Sociable, Zyx, Katydid, Beam, Rad, Roma, Godiva, Knutsford, and Asphodel.

OCTOBER TIES.—Beam, Godiva, Katydid, Knutsford, Rad, Roma, and Zyx have all sent correct solutions, and remain competing. Asphodel and Sociable, whose solutions are incorrect, fall out of the competition.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 3.

(NINTH MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

PROEM.

What are the wrongs he has to redress,
That to this goal in arms he should press?

1.

In a musical contest he did not thrive,
And, failing, was forthwith flayed alive.

2.

The ancient to the general
Was "nothing if not critical."

3.

To organise victory was one Frenchman's feat,
This Marshal of France but organised defeat.

4.

Its rugged hills by the Adrian Sea
Famed haunt of bandits used to be.

5.

The shipwrecked hero, saved from the deep,
Was found by the Phaeacian girl asleep.

From the report of the Directors of the Gresham Life Assurance Society, presented at the ordinary general meeting of shareholders held on Tuesday, we learn that a surplus of £96,000 was recommended for division among the policyholders and shareholders. It appears that during the year no less than 6,138 policies were issued by the Society, assuring an amount of £2,136,899, while the immediate annuities granted during the year were for the yearly payment of £8,606 19s. 9d. The income from premiums, after deducting the amount paid for re-assurance, was £567,414 13s. 2d., including £78,098 0s. 4d., in premiums for the first year of assurance. The balance of the interest account amounted to £149,628 1s. 10d., which, together with the premiums, raised the income of the Society to £717,042 15s. 0d. for the year. After providing for all claims there remained a balance of £157,798 17s. 0d. The fund available for the existing policies of the Society amounted at the end of the financial year to £3,571,300 0s. 9d., which, with various other amounts, made up the total of assets to £3,642,581 14s. 10d. This eminently satisfactory report is at once a convincing proof of the high position the Society holds in the estimation of the public with whom so vast a business has been done, and the care and ability with which the various negotiations have been transacted by the directors and officers of the company.

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